The Hongkong Telegraph.

(ESTABLISHED 1881.)

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Banks.

HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

PAID-UP CAPITAL.....$15,000,000
RESERVE FUNDS—
Sterling
£1,500,000 at 2/-=$15,000,000
Silver $14,000,000
$29,000,000
RESERVE LIABILITY OF PROP'TORS.$15,000,000

COURT OF DIRECTORS:
E. Shellim, Esq.—Chairman.
Hon. Mr. W. J. Gresson—Deputy Chairman.
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G. Friesland, Esq. | Hon. Mr. H. A. W. Slade.
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CHIEF MANAGER:
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MANAGER.
Shanghai—W. ADAMS ORAM.

LONDON BANKERS—LONDON AND COUNTY BANKING COMPANY, LIMITED.
HONGKONG—INTEREST ALLOWED:
On Current Account at the rate of 2 per Cent. per Annum on the daily balance.

ON FIXED DEPOSITS:
For 3 months, 2½ per Cent. per Annum.
For 6 months, 3½ per Cent. per Annum.
For 12 months, 4 per Cent. per Annum.
J. R. M. SMITH,
Chief Manager.
Hongkong, 15th October, 1908. [24

INTERNATIONAL BANKING CORPORATION.

CAPITAL PAID UP .....GOLD $3,250,000
ABOUT MEX $7,222,222
RESERVE FUND .....GOLD $3,250,000
=ABOUT MEX $7,222,222

HEAD OFFICE:
60 WALL STREET, NEW YORK.

LONDON OFFICE:
THREADNEEDLE HOUSE, E.C.

LONDON BANKERS:
BANK OF ENGLAND.
NATIONAL PROVINCIAL BANK OF ENGLAND, LIMITED.
THE CAPITAL AND COUNTIES BANK, LTD.

BRANCHES AND AGENTS ALL OVER THE WORLD.

THE Corporation transacts every Description of Banking and Exchange Business, receives Money in Current Account at the rate of 2% per annum on daily balances and accepts Fixed Deposits at the following rates:—
For 12 months 4½ per cent. per annum.
" 6 " 4 " " " "
" 3 " 3 " " " "

No. 9, Queen's Road Central,
Hongkong.
W. M. ANDERSON,
Manager.
Hongkong, 8th April, 1908. [25

THE CHARTERED BANK OF INDIA, AUSTRALIA AND CHINA.

INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER, 1853.
HEAD OFFICE:—LONDON.

PAID-UP CAPITAL £1,200,000
RESERVE FUND £1,525,000
RESERVE LIABILITIES OF PROPRIETORS £1,200,000

INTEREST ALLOWED on CURRENT ACCOUNT at the Rate of 2 per cent. per annum on the Daily Balances.
On Fixed Deposits for 12 months, 4 per cent.
" " " 6 " — 3½ "
" " " 3 " — 2½ "
JOHN ARMSTRONG,
Manager.
Hongkong, 15th May, 1908. [29

NEDERLANDSCHE HANDEL-MAATSCHAPPIJ.
(Netherlands Trading Society.)

ESTABLISHED 1824.

PAID-UP CAPITAL Fl. 45,000,000 (£3,750,000).
RESERVE FUND Fl. 5,752,884.84 (about £479,407).

Head Office—AMSTERDAM.

Head Agency—BATAVIA.

BRANCHES:—Singapore, Penang, Shanghai, Rangoon, Samarang, Sourabaya, Cheribon, Tegal, Pecalongan, Pasoeroean, Tjilatjap, Padang, Medan (Deli), Palembang, Kota-Radja (Atcheen), Bandjermasin.
Correspondents at Macassar, Bombay, Colombo, Madras, Pondicherry, Calcutta, Bangkok, Saigon, Haiphong, Hanoi, Amoy, Yokohama, Kobe, Melbourne, Sydney, New York, San Francisco, &c.

LONDON BANKERS:
THE UNION OF LONDON AND SMITHS BANK, LIMITED.

THE Bank buys and sells and receives for collection Bills of Exchange, issues letters of credit on its Branches and correspondents in the East, on the Continent, in Great Britain, America, and Australia, and transacts banking business of every description.
INTEREST ALLOWED:
On Current Accounts 2% per annum on daily balances.
Fixed Deposits 12 months 4½% per annum.
Do. 6 do. 4% do.
Do. 3 do. 3½% do.
J. L. VAN HOUTEN,
Agent.
Hongkong, 16th July 1908. [1

Banks.

YOKOHAMA SPECIE BANK, LIMITED.

CAPITAL PAID-UP .....Yen 24,000,000
RESERVE FUNDS ..... " 15,100,000

Head Office:—YOKOHAMA.

Branches and Agencies.

TOKIO.	CHEFOO.
KOBE.	TIENTSIN.
OSAKA.	PEKIN.
NAGASAKI.	NEWCHWANG.
LONDON.	DALNY.
LYONS.	PORT ARTHUR.
NEW YORK.	ANTUNG.
SAN FRANCISCO.	LIOYANG.
HONOLULU.	MUKDEN.
BOMBAY.	TIE-LING.
SHANGHAI.	CHANG-CHUN.
HANKOW.	

HONGKONG:—INTEREST ALLOWED.
On Current Account at the rate of 2 per cent. per Annum on the Daily Balance.
On fixed deposit:—
For 12 months .....5% p.a.
" 6 " .....4% "
" 3 " .....3% "
TAKEO TAKAMICHI,
Manager.
Hongkong, 12th September, 1908. [23

HONGKONG SAVINGS BANK.

THE Business of the above Bank is conducted by the HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION. Rules may be obtained on application.
INTEREST on deposits is allowed at 3½ PER CENT. per annum.
Depositors may transfer at their option balances of $100 or more to the HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANK to be placed on FIXED DEPOSIT at 4 PER CENT. per annum.
For the HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION,
J. R. M. SMITH,
Chief Manager.
Hongkong, 12th January, 1907. [28

DEUTSCH ASIATISCHE BANK.

CAPITAL FULLY PAID-UP...Sh. Taels 7,500,000

HEAD OFFICE—SHANGHAI.
BOARD OF DIRECTORS: BERLIN.

BRANCHES:

Berlin	Calcutta	Hamburg	Hankow
Kobe	Peking	Singapore	Tientsin
Tsinanfu	Tsingtau	Yokohama	

FOUNDED BY THE FOLLOWING BANKS AND BANKERS:

Koenigliche Seehandlung (Preussische Staatsbank) }
Direction der Disconto-Gesellschaft }
Deutsche Bank }
S. Bleichroeder } Berlin.
Berliner Handels-Gesellschaft }
Bank fuer Handel und Industrie }
Robert Warschauer & Co. }
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M. A. von Rothschild & Soehne } Frankfurt a/M.
Jacob S. H. Stern }
Norddeutsche Bank in Hamburg, Hamburg.
Sal. Oppenheim jr. & Co., Koeln.
Bayerische Hypotheken und Wechselbank, Muenchen.

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Messrs. N. M. ROTHSCHILD & SONS.
THE UNION OF LONDON AND SMITH'S BANK, LIMITED.
DEUTSCHE BANK (BERLIN), LONDON AGENCY,
DIRECTION DER DISCONTO GESELLSCHAFT.

INTEREST allowed on Current Account. DEPOSITS received on terms which may be learned on application. Every description of Banking and Exchange business transacted.
A. KOEHN,
Manager.
Hongkong, 4th December, 1907. [30

Intimations.

CHRISTMAS WEEK!
CHRISTMAS WEEK!!

Remember there is such a place in TOWN, by name THE SAVOY, where you can obtain your Christmas Outfit at Cost Price.

Do not ponder over the offer.

Call and see with your own eyes and you will be satisfied.

Hongkong, 10th December, 1908. 1633

MUSIC LESSON.

LESSONS in Violin, Mandoline and Guitar at pupil's residence.
Evening engagements for Dances and Concerts.
Apply to—
M. J. LOPES,
C/o *Hongkong Telegraph* Office.
Hongkong, 9th March, 1908. [308

Mails.

PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY.

FOR	STEAMERS	TO SAIL ON	REMARKS
SHANGHAI, MOJI, KOBE & YOKOHAMA	SUNDA ..... Capt. G. M. Montford, R.N.R.	About 23rd Dec.	Freight and Passage.
SHANGHAI	ASSAYE..... Capt. C. L. Daniel	About 25th Dec.	Freight and Passage.
LONDON, &c., via usual Ports	DELTA ..... Capt. B. W. H. Snow.....	Noon, 26th Dec.	*See Special Advertisement.*
LONDON and ANTWERP via SINGAPORE, PENANG, COLOMBO, PORT SAID and MARSEILLES	SICILIA ..... Capt. C. H. Watkins, R.N.R.	30th Dec.	Freight and Passage.

For Further Particulars, apply to
E. A. HEWETT,
Superintendent.
Hongkong, 17th December, 1908. [7

Intimations.

LANE, CRAWFORD & CO.

TELEPHONE 97.

JUST RECEIVED.

AXMINSTER PARQUET CARPETS.
Woven in one piece without seam
Exclusive Designs.
SUITABLE FOR DRAWING AND DINING ROOMS.

AXMINSTER, WILTON & BRUSSELS CARPETS.
Select Patterns. Made any size.

KENSINGTON ART CARPETS
In various sizes. Artistic Designs.

WINTER CURTAINS.
New Designs & Art Shades.

INSPECTION INVITED.

LANE, CRAWFORD & CO.

Champagnes,
Sherries,
Marsalas,
Madeiras,
Brandies, Ports,
Gins, Clarets.
Whiskies, Burgundies,
Vermouths, Hocks and Moselles.
Bitters,
Liqueurs,
Ales, Beers and Stouts.

Telephone No. 75.

CALDBECK, MACGREGOR & CO.,
WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANTS,
15, Queen's Road Central.
Hongkong, 11th December, 1908. 140

Hotels.

HOTEL PLEASANTON,

No. 17 Water Street, Yokohama.

FIRST CLASS PRIVATE HOTEL—Newly Opened and Furnished Suites or Single Rooms, Private Baths, Modern Sanitary Fittings, Electric Light, Up-to-date Appointments, Renowned Cuisine, Dark Room for Photographers. Charges Moderate.

HENRY LUTZ,
MANAGER.
Yokohama, 16th July, 1908. 169

HOTEL CRAIGIEBURN,

PLUNKET'S GAP, the PEAK, near the TRAM TERMINUS Tel. 56.

For Terms, &c., apply to the
MANAGER.
Hongkong, 2nd July, 1900. [5

Shipping—Steamers

HONGKONG, CANTON, MACAO AND WEST RIVER STEAMERS.

JOINT SERVICE OF
THE HONGKONG, CANTON AND MACAO STEAMBOAT CO., LTD., AND THE CHINA NAVIGATION COMPANY, LTD.

HONGKONG-CANTON LINE.
S.S. "HONAM" 2,363 Tons, "FATSHAN" 2,260 Tons, "KINSHAN" 1,995 Tons.
"HEUNGSHAN" 1,998 Tons.
Departures from HONGKONG to CANTON daily at 8 A.M. (Sunday excepted), 10 P.M. (Saturday excepted).
Departures from CANTON to HONGKONG daily at 8 A.M. and 5.30 P.M. (Sunday excepted).
These Steamers, carrying His Majesty's Mails, are the largest and fastest on the River
Special attention is drawn to their Superior Saloon and Cabin Accommodation.

SERVICE OF THE HONGKONG, CANTON AND MACAO STEAMBOAT CO., LTD.

HONGKONG-MACAO LINE.
S.S. "SUI-TAI" 1,265 Tons and "SUI-AN" 1,265 Tons.
Departures from Hongkong to Macao on week days at 8 A.M. from the Company's Wing Lok Street Wharf and at 2 P.M. from the Company's Wharf.
REDUCED SALOON RATES AT WEEK-END.
Saturday A.M. or P.M. departure, returning Sunday A.M. or P.M. .....$5.
Do. do. do. do. Monday do. $6.00

CANTON-MACAO LINE.
S.S. "HOI SANG."
Departures from MACAO to CANTON on Monday, Wednesday and Friday, at 9 P.M.
Departures from CANTON to MACAO on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday, at 5 P.M.

JOINT SERVICE OF
HONGKONG, CANTON AND MACAO STEAMBOAT CO., LTD.,
THE CHINA NAVIGATION COMPANY, LTD., AND THE INDO-CHINA STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY, LTD.

CANTON-WUCHOW LINE.
S.S. "SAINAM," 588 Tons, and "NANNING," 569 Tons.
One of the above steamers leaves Canton for Wuchow every Monday, Wednesday and Friday, at about 8 A.M., and the other leaves Wuchow for Canton on the same days at 8.30 A.M. Round trips take about 5 days. These vessels have Superior Cabin Accommodation and are lighted throughout by electricity.

EXCURSION TO MACAO.
On SUNDAY, 20th December,
S.S. "HEUNGSHAN"
will depart from the COMPANY'S WHARF, at 9 A.M.
Departure from Macao at 5 P.M.
Popular Excursion Rates as usual.
Machado's String Band will play selections of Music during the trip.
N.B.—The Company also runs a steamer from Macao on Sunday morning at 7.30 A.M. and from Hongkong at 1 P.M. from the Company's Wing Lok Street Wharf.

Further particulars may be obtained at the Office of the—
HONGKONG, CANTON & MACAO STEAMBOAT CO., LD.,
HOTEL MANSIONS, (FIRST FLOOR),
opposite the Hongkong Hotel. [6

Hotels.

HONGKONG HOTEL.

FIRST CLASS AND UP-TO-DATE.
Military Band during dinner on Saturday Nights.
A. F. DAVIES,
Hongkong, 21st June, 1907. Manager. [8

FOR
LUXURY AND COMFORT,
FRESHNESS AND EXCELLENT
CUISINE,
STAY AT—
THE GRAND CARLTON HOTEL.
Hongkong, 5th December, 1908. [790

ASTOR HOUSE
(LATE CONNAUGHT HOTEL.)
QUEEN'S ROAD, HONGKONG.

CENTRALLY situated, up-to-date Hotel. Recently renovated, and under entirely New Management. Large and Comfortable Rooms, Excellent Cuisine and separate Tables, Hot and Cold Baths, Electric Light throughout. Terms moderate First Class accommodation for Families and Tourists.
Under Personal Supervision of
L. GAMEAU, Proprietor. N. BLUMENTHAL, Manager.
Telephone, 170. Telegrams "Astor." [908

Mails.

NORDDEUTSCHER LLOYD,

BREMEN.

IMPERIAL GERMAN MAIL LINES.

For	Steamers	To sail
NAPLES, GENOA, ALGIERS, GIBRALTAR, SOUTHAMPTON, ANTWERP and HAMBURG	"BUELOW" Capt. H. Formes	WEDNESDAY, Noon, 30th December.
MANILA, NEW GUINEA, BRISBANE, SYDNEY & MELBOURNE	"PRINZ WALDEMAR" Capt. F. Iseke	THURSDAY, 5 P.M., 31st December.
SHANGHAI, TSINGTAU, NAGASAKI, KOBE and YOKOHAMA	"PRINZ EITEL FRIEDRICH" Capt. E. Malchow	About THURSDAY, 31st December
KUDAT and SANDAKAN	"BORNEO" Capt. F. Sambili	Beginning of January, 1909.

For further Particulars, apply to

NORDDEUTSCHER LLOYD.
MELCHERS & CO.,
GENERAL AGENTS, HONGKONG & CHINA.

Hongkong, 19th December, 1908. [8

MESSAGERIES MARITIMES.

FRENCH MAIL LINES.

FORTNIGHTLY SERVICE TO and FROM EUROPE via SUEZ CANAL.
TO and FROM JAPAN via SHANGHAI.

For	Steamers	Captains	To sail on
SHANGHAI, KOBE, YOKOHAMA	...TONKIN	...Charbonnel	...21st Dec., P.M.
MARSEILLES, VIA PORTS	...DUMBEA	...Boyer	...22nd Dec., at 1 P.M.
SHANGHAI, KOBE, YOKOHAMA	...SYDNEY	...Henric	... 4th Jan./09, P.M.
MARSEILLES, VIA PORTS	...ERNEST SIMONS	...Girard	... 5th Jan./09, at 1 P.M.

Transhipment on the Co.'s Steamers at Singapore for Batavia; at Colombo for Calcutta, Bombay and Australia; at Port Said for the Levant, Constantinople and Black Sea.

Through Tickets to London via Paris from £27.10 up to £72.10. 20 hours' railway from Marseilles to London.

Interpreters meet passengers at their arrival in Marseilles.

For further particulars, apply to

P. NALIN,
ACTING AGENT,
QUEEN'S BUILDINGS.

Hongkong, 8th December, 1908. [14

JAVA-CHINA-JAPAN LIJN.

REGULAR THREE-WEEKLY SERVICE
BETWEEN
JAVA, CHINA, AND JAPAN.

Steamer.	From	Expected on or about	Will leave for	On or about
TJIPANAS ...	SHANGHAI ...	2nd half Dec.	JAVA ...	2nd half Dec.
TJIMAHI ...	JAVA ...	1st half Jan.	SHANGHAI ...	1st half Jan.
TJILIWONG..	JAPAN ...	1st half Jan.	JAVA ...	1st half Jan.
TJIKINI ...	JAVA ...	2nd half Jan.	JAPAN ...	2nd half Jan.
TJILATJAP...	JAVA ...	1st half Feb.	SHANGHAI ...	1st half Feb.
TJIBODAS ...	JAVA ...	——	JAPAN ...	——

The Steamers are all fitted throughout with Electric Light and have Accommodation for a limited number of Saloon Passengers, and will take Cargo to all Netherland India Ports on through Bills of Lading.

For Particulars of Freight and Passage, apply to

JAVA-CHINA-JAPAN LIJN.

Telephone No. 375.
YORK BUILDINGS, 1st floor,
Hongkong, 14th December, 1908. [16

WEST RIVER BRITISH STEAMSHIP COMPANIES.

HONGKONG-WUCHOW LINE.

THE Steamers "LINTAN" and "SAN-UI"
SAIL TWICE A WEEK AND COMPLETE THE ROUND TRIP IN 4 DAYS.
These steamers have Excellent Saloon Accommodation, and are Lighted Throughout by Electricity.
THE CLIMATE ON THE WEST RIVER DURING THE WINTER MONTHS IS VERY FINE AND EXHILIRATING.

For further information apply to—
BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,
AGENTS,
WEST RIVER BRITISH S.S. COMPANIES.

Warehouse on Wharf, Yard. [6

Intimation.

THE YOKOHAMA DOCK CO., LTD.

No. 1 DOCK.
Length inside 514 ft. Width of entrance, top 95 ft.; bottom 75 ft. Water on blocks, 27.5 ft. Time to pump out, 4 hours.

No. 2 DOCK.
Length inside, 375 ft. Width of entrance, top 60.5 ft. bottom 45.8 ft. Water on blocks, 26.5 ft. Time to pump out, 2 hours.

THESE DOCKS are conveniently situated in Yokohama harbour and the attention of Captains and Engineers is respectfully called to the advantages offered for Docking and repairing Vessels and Machinery of every description.

The plant and tools are of recent patterns for dealing quickly and cheaply with work and a large stock of material is always at hand, (plates and angles all being tested by Lloyds' surveyors).

Two powerful Twin Screw Towboats are available for taking Vessels in or out of Dock, and for taking Sailing Vessels in or out of the bay. The floating derrick is capable of lifting 35 tons.

Steam Launches of Steel or Wood, Lighters, Steel Buildings and Roofs, Bridge Work, and all kinds of Machinery are made on the premises.

Tenders will be made up when required and the workmanship and material will be guaranted.

The cost of Docking, and repair work, will be found to compare favourably with that of any port in the world.

Telephone: Nos. 376, 506, or 681.
Telegrams; "Dock, Yokohama," Codes A. B. C. 4th and 5th Edt.
Liebers, Bootts, A. 1, and Watkins.

Yokohama, May 23rd, 1905. [39

Shipping—Steamers.

MESSAGERIES CANTONAISES.

FRENCH LINE OF STEAMERS BETWEEN HONGKONG, CANTON AND KOUANG-SI.

S.S. "PAUL BEAU," 1,900 tons, 14 knots.
S.S. "CHARLES HARDOUIN," 1,900 tons, 14 knots.

The speediest, most luxuriously appointed and punctual steamers on the line
Departure from Hongkong at 10 P.M. (Saturdays excepted).
Departure from Canton at 5.15 P.M. (Sundays excepted).

These superb steamers carrying the French Mail are fitted throughout with Electric Light and Fans and were specially built for this trade. Excellent cuisine.

The Company's Own Wharf near Wing Lok Street and its berth in Canton opposite Shameen.

For further particulars, please apply to the COMPANY'S OFFICE at Shameen, Canton, or to their Agents
BARRETTO & CO., Hongkong.

Hongkong, 9th October, 1908. [21

Intimations.

INTERNATIONAL SLEEPING CAR and EXPRESS TRAINS Co.
(THE GREAT TRANS-SIBERIAN ROUTE TO EUROPE.)

HAVING been appointed AGENTS for the above Company, we shall be pleased to give any information as to rates of passage, &c., in connection with above.

SHEWAN, TOMES & Co
Agents.

Hongkong, 27th July, 1908. [47

THERAPION MAY NOW ALSO BE OBTAINED IN DRAGEE (TASTELESS) FORM.

SELF CURE NO LONGER!
MARVEL UPON MARVEL!
NO SUFFERER NEED NOW DESPAIR,
but without consulting a doctor's bill or falling into the clutches of quackery, may safely, speedily and completely cure himself without the knowledge of a third party. By the introduction of the NEW FRENCH REMEDY,

THERAPION

a complete revolution has been wrought in the department of medical science, whilst thousands have been restored to health and happiness who for years previously had been merely dragging out a miserable existence.

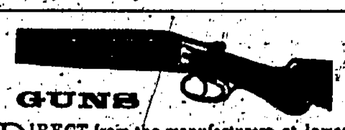
THERAPION No. 1—A Sovereign Remedy for discharges, superseding injections, the use of which does irreparable harm by laying the foundation of stricture and other serious diseases.

THERAPION No. 2—A Sovereign Remedy for primary and secondary blood eruptions, ulcerations, pains and swellings of the joints, and all those complaints which mercury and sarsaparilla are popularly but erroneously supposed to cure. This preparation purifies the whole system through the blood and thoroughly eliminates all poisonous matter from the body.

THERAPION No. 3—A Sovereign Remedy for debility, nervousness, impaired vitality, sleeplessness, dimness and incapacity for business or pleasure, loss of solitude, troubled indigestion, pains in the back and head, and all disorders resulting from dissipation, early excesses, &c., which the faculty so pertinently say, because so impotent to cure or even relieve.

THERAPION is sold in Metrical Cases in almost every part of the world. Price in England 2/9 and 4/6. In ordering, state which of the three numbers required, and observe that the word "THERAPION" appears on British Government Stamp (in white letters on a red ground) affixed to every package by order of His Majesty's Hon. Commissioners, and without which it is a forgery.

Sold by all Chemists. [6—D



GUNS

DIRECT from the manufacturers at lowest prices. 12 bore Double Breechloaders from 30/- each. Illustrated catalogue of *latest model* Shot Guns, Combination Guns, Sporting Rifles, &c., post free. D. JAMES & REYNOLDS, George Street, Minories, London, E.C. England. [886

AN APPEAL.

THE SUPERIORESS, of the ITALIAN CONVENT, CAINE ROAD, begs most respectfully to APPEAL to the Residents of Hongkong and the Coast Ports, for their kind patronage and support, and desires to state that she will be pleased to receive orders for all kinds of NEEDLE WORK.

Gentleman's Shirts made to order, and Cuffs and Collars renewed on old ones.

Ladies and Children's Under-clothing, Children's Dresses, and all kinds of Embroidery Materials can be supplied, if required.

The Superioress will also be most grateful for any PAPER, or old ENVELOPES to be made into Books for the Children of the Poor Schools who are taught by the Sisters.

Hongkong, 22nd April, 1902 [62

Dentistry.

TSIN TING.

LATEST METHODS OF DENTISTRY.

STUDIO AT No. 14, D'AGUILAR STREET.

REASONABLE FEES.

Consultation Free.

Hongkong, 20th June, 1904. [60

DR. M. H. CHAUN,
THE LATEST METHOD
of the
AMERICAN SYSTEM OF DENTISTRY
21, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL,
From the University of Pennsylvania, U.S.A.
Hongkong, 14th April, 1908 [60

THE SITUATION IN CHINA.

In the early days that followed the accession of the youthful Emperor Hsuan Tung and the transfer of the reins of government into the hands of Prince Chun there was strong reason for taking an optimistic view of the situation in Peking. Nevertheless it had to be acknowledged that there was some room for anxiety in view of the fact that considerable ignorance prevailed regarding the relations of the Regent and H.E. Yuan Shih-kai. The days of strictest mourning, however, have come to an end and nothing has taken place in the interval suggestive of any hostility between the two. On the contrary an important edict has been issued proclaiming complete continuity of policy in regard to the question of a constitution and, accordingly, practically all cause for anxiety may be held to have disappeared. For, if there is one name more closely associated with the reform movement than any other, it is that of Yuan Shih-kai, and it must be assumed that his position remains unshaken, while his aims are those also of Prince Chun and the new régime. The edict of December 3 has, in fact, greatly clarified the situation. In it the Empire is assured that the promise of constitutional government given in the edict of August 27 will be redeemed in the eighth year of Hsuan Tung, and thus the ground is cut away from under the feet of those who may have been inclined to make "reform" a justification for revolution. To-day it would seem, indeed, as if the danger of revolution had been exaggerated; but it cannot be overlooked that some danger certainly existed, and it would probably have been increased, if the conduct of affairs in Peking had been less able. The recent decree cannot fail to be regarded as a powerful guarantee of peace.

At the threshold of a new reign, in which reform and constitutionalism are likely to be most absorbing subjects, the moment is opportune for a brief survey of the work already accomplished in this direction during the last two years. The starting point was the return of the Travelling Commissioners in July, 1906, and the appointment of a Commission to examine their reports. On November 6 of that year came the first tangible result, which changed the names of some Boards, amalgamated others, and enacted, first, that Boards were, in future, to have one President, and four Vice-Presidents, and secondly, that no distinction was, henceforth, to be made between Manchus and Chinese. A series of constitutional experiments inaugurated by Yuan Shih-kai at Tientsin followed, among which may be enumerated the establishment of associations for discussing all matters connected with the introduction of local self-government, and a general reorganization of judicial procedure, with the inauguration of a Hall for expounding the theory and practice of self-government. In July 1907 were held the preliminary and final elections to the Local Government Office, which was constituted on a basis of popular representation guided by official electicism. The interest of the story now returns to Peking where, it will remembered, events, during the period of H.E. Yuan Shih-kai's experiment, had tended to favour the Reactionaries. On August 10 comes the decree on Racial Jealousies, followed, three days afterwards, by one inaugurating a "Department for drawing up regulations for Constitutional Government." Shortly afterwards, Yuan Shih-kai was summoned to the Capital. On September 20 an assembly of Ministers was appointed, under the presidency of Prince P'u Lun and the Grand Secretary Sun Chia-nai, to prepare a scheme for Parliamentary Government. This was followed, in October, by a decree authorising the establishment of provincial local assemblies for the study of Government affairs, to be modelled on the one existing in Peking, and in December these assemblies were distinctly said to be "intended as the foundation of the future Parliament." No very definite advance on this was made during the first six months of 1908, but on July 22 a decree sanctioned the regulations drawn up by Prince Ching and Prince Pu Lun in connection with the inauguration of Provincial Assemblies, membership of which was made to depend upon conditions very similar to those adopted by Yuan Shih-kai at Tientsin.

Finally, on August 27, came the decree definitely promising a constitution in nine years and outlining the work to be accomplished during the interval. It is this beacon-light of the reform party that has now received confirmation at the hands of the new régime through the decree of December 3. Whatever opinion may be entertained regarding the readiness of China within the period named for constitutional government, it has to be admitted that it forms the only feasible goal for a reform movement. Before the lapse of nine years the country will be in a better position to gauge accurately its real requirements, and possibly to evolve some form of government better suited to the Eastern genius than a frank imitation of unrelieved Western institutions. In the meantime, it is satisfactory to find that the steps, if any, being taken along the path of progress are under peaceful conditions. The success of the movement depends to no little extent upon its ability to proceed cautiously. We may surely regard it as a hopeful omen for the new era in China that the Government should have decided to announce to the country its intention to provide a tutor of English for the young Emperor. Among the many and violent departures from old traditions none is perhaps more symptomatic than this. If the new Regent contents himself merely with maintaining the rate of progress already achieved by the present movement, the prospect of a permanent edifice of reform being erected on a solid foundation, when the Emperor, conversant with a foreign language, assumes the government, is of the brightest.—*N. C. D. News.*

Consignees.

FROM EUROPE.

THE H. A. L. Steamship
"BARCELONA,"
Captain Porsalius, having arrived, Consignees of Cargo are hereby requested to send in their Bills of Lading for countersignature by the Undersigned and to take immediate delivery of their goods from alongside.

Optional Cargo will be forwarded unless notice to the contrary be given before TO-DAY.

Any Cargo impeding her discharge will be landed at consignees' risk into the hazardous and/or extra hazardous Godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company, Limited, and stored at Consignees' risk and expense.

All Claims must be presented within ten days of the steamer's arrival here after which date they cannot be recognised.

No Claims will be admitted after the Goods have left the Godowns, and all Goods remaining undelivered after the 22nd inst., will be subject to rent.

All broken, chafed, and damaged Goods are to be left in the Godowns, where they will be examined on the 21st inst., at 3 P.M.

No Fire Insurance has been effected.

HAMBURG-AMERIKA LINIE,
Hongkong Office.

Hongkong, 15th December, 1908 [1081

"BEN" LINE OF STEAMERS.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

S.S. "BENLEDI,"
FROM MIDDLESBRO', ANTWERP, LONDON AND STRAITS.

CONSIGNEES of Cargo are hereby informed that all Goods are being landed at their risk into the hazardous and/or extra hazardous Godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Ltd., whence and/or from the wharves delivery may be obtained.

No Claims will be admitted after the Goods have left the Godowns, and all Goods remaining undelivered after the 21st inst. will be subject to rent.

All Claims against the Steamer must be presented to the Undersigned on or before the 28th inst., or they will not be recognised.

All broken, chafed, and damaged Goods are to be left in the Godowns, where they will be examined on the 21st inst., at 11 A.M.

No Fire Insurance has been effected.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by

GIBB, LIVINGSTON & Co.,
Agents.

Hongkong, 14th December, 1908. [1073

NORDDEUTSCHER LLOYD, BREMEN.
IMPERIAL GERMAN MAIL LINE.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

THE Steamship
"PRINZ WALDEMAR,"
having arrived, Consignees of Cargo are hereby informed that their Goods, with the exception of Opium, Treasure and Valuables, are being landed and stored at their risk into the hazardous and/or extra hazardous Godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company, Limited, at Kowloon, and West Point Godowns, whence delivery may be obtained.

No Claims will be admitted after the Goods have left the Godowns, and all Goods remaining undelivered after the 19th of December, will be subject to rent.

All broken, chafed and damaged Goods are to be left in the Godowns, where they will be examined on the 19th of December, at 9.30 A.M.

All Claims must reach us before the 23rd of December, 1908, or they will not be recognised.

No Fire Insurance will be effected.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by the Undersigned.

NORDDEUTSCHER LLOYD,
MELCHERS & Co.,
Agents.

Hongkong, 17th December, 1908. [8

NORDDEUTSCHER LLOYD, BREMEN.
IMPERIAL GERMAN MAIL LINE.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

THE Steamship
"DERFFLINGER,"
having arrived, Consignees of Cargo are hereby informed that their Goods, with the exception of Opium, Treasure and Valuables, are being landed and stored at their risk into the hazardous and/or extra hazardous Godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company, Limited, Kowloon, whence delivery may be obtained.

No Claims will be admitted after the Goods have left the Godowns, and all Goods remaining undelivered after the 24th of December, will be subject to rent.

All broken, chafed, and damaged Goods are to be left in the Godowns, where they will be examined on the 24th of December, at 9.30 A.M.

All claims must reach us before the 28th of December, 1908, or they will not be recognised.

No Fire Insurance will be effected.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by the undersigned.

NORDDEUTSCHER LLOYD,
MELCHERS & Co.,
Agents.

Hongkong, 17th December, 1908. [8

PABST BREWING COMPANY,
MILWAUKEE.

FRESH SUPPLIES

ALWAYS KEPT IN STOCK

BY

SIEMSSEN & Co.,
Agents for
HONGKONG & SOUTH CHINA.

Hongkong, 20th July, 1907. [11

Intimation.

Powell's

GRAND CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

OPEN UNTIL 6 P.M. Daily

TOYS

Every conceivable kind of Toy,

From 10 Cents to 35 Dollars.

DOLLS

A gorgeous array of Fairies, dressed, partly dressed and undressed,

From 25 Cents to 30 Dollars each.

ANIMALS

of all kinds,

Including:

Polar Bears, Grizzly Bears, Teddy Bears, Hares, Rabbits, Terriers, Bulldogs, Spaniels, Monkeys, Cats, Donkeys, Horses, Elephants,

etc., etc., etc.

GAMES

All the newest Parlour Games,

Comprising:

Cups and Balls, Garden Throwing, Peg Quoits, Captive Skittles, Ballooning, Sea Fights, New Hopla, Pop in Taw: Atlas Race Games, Leap Frog, Bowls, Planchette, Giggle Goggle Ring Pitch,

etc., etc., etc.

XMAS TREE Decorations and Ornaments GALORE.

Rocking Horses,
Tricycles,
Hobby Horses,
&c., &c., &c.

Fancy Goods.

POWELL'S
ALEXANDRA BUILDINGS.

Hongkong, 19th December, 1908. [19

BIGGEST DIAMOND.

STORY OF THE CUTTING OF THE CULLINAN.

The monstrous Cullinan diamond (which has now been cut into 105 brilliants, so must be called in future the Cullinan diamonds) has been formally delivered to the King.

The work of cutting and polishing the gem, and transforming it into a number of gorgeous brilliants (two of which are far the largest in existence), has occupied the record time of only nine months. Messrs. Joseph Asscher and Co., of Amsterdam and Paris, did the work, and Messrs. N. J. Levy and Nephews, the experts in precious stones, overlooked the cutting.

It will be remembered that the Cullinan, the greatest of all diamonds, was discovered on 26th Jan., 1905, in the Premier (Transvaal) mine. An overseer, Mr. F. Wells, going his rounds, noticed a glistening body, almost buried in the earth. Using his penknife, he got out the stone. The previous largest stone discovered, the Excelsior, weighed, in the rough, 971 carats. The Cullinan weighed 1lb. avoirdupois, or 3,025¾ carats. It had a maximum girth of 11½ inches.

A ROYAL PRESENT.

In August, 1907, Gen. Botha proposed that the gem should be offered to his Majesty as a token of the loyalty of the Transvaal people. The presentation was made on the King's birthday, at Sandringham last year, by Sir Richard Solomon, the Agent-General of the Transvaal in London. It should be added that the stone was sent to London by ordinary registered post.

In the *Times* yesterday was published an authorised account of the work of cutting and polishing the jewel. The stone was handed to Messrs. Asscher at the Colonial Office. It was taken by the shortest sea route to Amsterdam, and got safely within the steel and concrete walls, 2ft. thick, of Messrs. Asscher's factory at Amsterdam.

Then began the onerous task of dividing the huge object, for Mr. Joseph Asscher had to bear in mind that he was dealing with the finest diamond that was ever discovered, and that it belonged to the King of England. Rough diamonds are liable to strange freaks and the application of the knife or cutting wheel must always be speculative to some extent.

METHODS OF CUTTING.

Two processes are employed in cutting diamonds. The old method is to use a knife and hammer, along the cleavage planes, following the natural angles of crystallisation. The other is quite a modern method, and employs a phosphor bronze wheel making 3,000 revolutions a minute. The latter, or sawing process, enables the cutter largely to disregard the natural cleavage planes of the diamond. But it was thought the Cullinan was too great a stone for the saw process, as the saw might get out of control.

So Mr. Joseph Asscher began work on the Cullinan with a steel knife and a hammer, the stone being mounted in a cup (four times the usual size) on a *lignum vitæ* stick. First an incision had to be made in the stone, a quarter of an inch deep. The crucial moment came.

With all the force a strong man could give, Mr. Asscher struck with his hammer at the steel knife wedged in the Cullinan. The knife broke.

CUT IN TWO.

At a second blow, however, the stone parted, one half weighing 1,977½ carats, and the other 1,040¼ carats. So well was the dividing done that only a few carats of splinters were made.

Still more difficult was the task of again halving the larger of the two portions. The operation was unique, and as an experiment, it was suggested that a dividing knife with two handles be employed. The experiment was entirely successful.

The next process was the grinding and polishing of the stones. For this purpose a special room was constructed in the factory in such a position that it could be overlooked from the private office of the heads of the firm. The work was given to Mr. Henri Koe, a polisher of exceptional ability, a Londoner by birth, though his parents were Dutch. The room was carpeted with felt, to guard against damage should the stones be dropped; and special appliances had to be constructed for the grinding and polishing, as the gems were so huge.

POLISHING SECRETS.

The mill on which diamonds are polished consists of a cast-iron and steel disc of peculiar quality, the production of which is a trade secret. Owing to the hardness of the diamond, the process of polishing is extremely slow. There are ordinarily 56 facets on a brilliant—32 above the girdle and 24 below it—besides the table and the collet; and each has to be ground and polished separately.

But the two largest Cullinan brilliants have respectively 74 and 66 facets. The decision to add to the number of facets was justified, for these two gems, the largest that exist, exhibit the most astonishing brilliancy, whereas most big gems are dull and deficient in fire.

MANY FROM ONE.

The following is a list of the stones into which the Cullinan has been cut:

1. A pendeloque or drop brilliant weighing 516½ carats. The extreme dimensions of this stone are 2.322in. long and 1.791in. broad.
2. A square brilliant weighing 309 3-16 carats, 1.771 in. long by 1.594in. broad.
3. A pendeloque weighing 92 carats.
4. A square brilliant weighing 62 carats.
5. A heart-shaped brilliant weighing 1½ carats.
6. A marquise brilliant weighing 11¼ carats.
7. A marquise brilliant weighing 8 9-16 carats.
8. A square brilliant weighing 6½ carats.
9. A pendeloque brilliant weighing 4 9-32 carats.
10. Ninety brilliants weighing 7½ carats.
11. A quantity of unpolished "ends" weighing 9 carats.

The magnitude of the original stone may be gauged from the fact that the Jubilee diamond, the property of Messrs. Wernher, Beit, and Co. and some members of the Diamond Syndicate, weighs but 239 carats, and the famous Koh-i-Noor 106 1-16 carats. Both the largest Cullinan brilliants far exceed these.

CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE OF THE EMPIRE.

SEVENTH CONGRESS.

Further letter from the London Chamber considered at the monthly meeting of the Hongkong Chamber on the 5th inst.:—

Oxford Court, Cannon Street,
London, 3rd November, 1908.

Dear Sir,—I beg to confirm my Circular letter of the 26th June last informing you that the Seventh Congress of the Empire will be held in Sydney, N.S.W., commencing on the 14th September, 1909, and giving particulars in regard to the general arrangements to be made for the convenience of delegates.

I have now pleasure in stating that the Governor General of the Commonwealth of Australia, the Right Hon. the Earl of Dudley, G. C. V.O., has accepted the Hon. Presidency of the Congress.

You will, I feel sure, realise the importance of deciding as early as possible at least upon some of the delegates who will represent your Chamber and of the desirability of those delegates informing me, through your, of their intention to visit Australia, as well as their prospective plans for the return journey. Nomications are reaching me frequently now, and I shall be glad to hear, as early as convenient, from all Chambers, in order that I may keep the Committee in Australia fully informed as to the Members that may be expected &c. I am appending to this letter details of the reductions which will be granted by the various Steamship Companies and the Routes which may be followed. These include facilities for visiting Japan, Hongkong, India &c. on the homeward journey whilst arrangements can no doubt be made, if so desired, for a more extended programme.

I am further instructed to request that your Chamber should commence, as early as convenient, the consideration of the resolutions which they may desire to bring forward, and that the same may be transmitted to me without delay. A preliminary draft of the programme of Resolutions to be submitted to the Congress will be circulated, following the usual custom, early in 1909. It is perhaps unnecessary for me to say that the Resolutions to be submitted to the Congress must be such as will be of interest to the Empire as a whole, or to more than one portion thereof, and not in any sense local in bearing. The following is a list of the subjects which were discussed at the 1906 Congress, and which will no doubt be of assistance to your Chamber in approaching the matter, though it is not intended to be in any way complete:—Arbitration, Bills of Lading, British Capital in the Colonies, British Commercial Agents, Cable Communication, Canadian Bankruptcy Law, Canadian Railways, Catalogues, Colonial Duties on Certification of Origin, Codification of Commercial Law, Colonial Survey, Commercial Education, Commercial Relations between the Mother Country, her Colonies and Dependencies, Commercial Travellers' Taxes, Consular Service, Decimal System of Weights, Measures and Currency, Defence of the Empire, Emigration, Fast Steamship Services, Gambling in futures, Imperial Council, Imperial Penny Postage, Importation of Canadian Cattle, Insolvency Law, International Exhibition, Light Dues, Merchandise Marks, Most-favoured nation treatment for British Colonies, National Indemnity in time of War, Naturalization Laws, Newfoundland, Parcel Post Rates, Patents, Copyright and Insolvency, Postal Rate on Imperial Publications, Realization of Small Estates, Rebates, Registration of Firms, Shipping Bounties, Shipping of China, Glassware, &c., Surtax in Venezuela, Surtax on Rum, Surtax d'Entrepot, and Transport.

I must add that the London Chamber will probably place on the paper resolutions on some of the following subjects viz:—Commercial Relations between the Mother Country, her Colonies and Dependencies; Defence of the Empire; Emigration; Arbitration; Inter-State Commercial Awards; Cable Communication; Commerical Education; Colonial Duties on Catalogues; Certificates of Origin; Merchandise Marks; Parcel Post Rates.

I am also sending, for your guidance, a copy of the Report of the last Congress, so that the new Resolutions may as far as possible be continuous and in keeping with the previous procedure.—Yours faithfully,

(Sgd.), KENRIC B. MURRAY,
Secretary.

Enclosure will be found on the table.

It was decided to reply that the Committee, at the moment, were unable to say definitely whether it would be possible to send a delegate to represent the Chamber, but in the event of it being possible no arrangements as to the movements of the delegate were necessary as it was likely he would be a merchant with business connections in the Commonwealth.

Intimation.

THE CHINA PROVIDENT LOAN AND MORTGAGE CO., LD.

(CAPITAL PAID UP .....$1,250,000)

Loans on Mortgage of House Property, &c
Goods received on Storage.
Advances made on Merchandise.
Loans made on the Provident System.
(Rates and Particulars on application).

THE OFFICE OF
TRUSTEE, EXECUTOR OF WILLS, ATTORNEY, &c.,
Undertaken and Executed.

SHEWAN, TOMES & CO.,
General Managers.

Hongkong, 19th March, 1908. [415

Intimations

DONE BY TRYING.

Nobody can tell what he can do till he tries. When a thing ought to be done the modern spirit moves us to keep working away at it until it is done. In the face of this idea the "impossible" vanishes. Where there's a will there's a way. "If we could but rob cod liver oil of its sickening taste and smell and then combine it with two or three other ingredients we should possess the best remedy in the world for certain diseases, that are now practically incurable." So said a famous English physician twenty-five years ago. "But it will never be done," he added, "You can no more turn cod liver oil into a pleasant palatable medicine, than you can turn the Codfish itself into a Bird of Paradise." Yet he lived to admit that in

WAMPOLE'S PREPARATION

the "impossible" had been accomplished. It is palatable as honey and contains all the nutritive and curative properties of Pure Cod Liver Oil, extracted by us from fresh cod livers, combined with the Compound Syrup of Hypophosphites, Extracts of Malt and Wild Cherry. This remedy is freed from the bad peculiarities Dr. Frothingham so detested, and it is precisely the splendid medicine he wished for. Use it freely and confidently for Anemia, Hysteria, Wasting Complaints, Blood Impurities, Asthma, and Throat and Lung Troubles. Dr. W. H. B. Aikins, F. R. C. P., London,—M. D. C. M., Victoria University,—M. B., Toronto University,—Consulting Physician to Home for Incurables, Physician to Toronto General Hospital, says: "I am much pleased to state that the results from using Wampole's Preparation of Cod Liver Oil have been uniformly satisfactory; it appealed to me as being prepared according to correct scientific principles." It increases the appetite and influences the digestion of food; it is delicious to take, will not disappoint you and is effective from the first dose. "It represents the dawn of progress." At chemists everywhere. 7

DON'T BUY

ELSEWHERE BEFORE YOU CALL AT

FRENCH STORE

(Opposite ASTOR HOUSE).

NOW SHOWING

A Large and Fancy Assortment of
The Best FRENCH TOYS, DOLLS,
TOM SMITH'S CRACKERS,
CADBURY'S CHOCOLATE,
PERNOT BISCUITS,
&c., &c., &c.

Hongkong, 21st November, 1908. [10

FURNITURE WAREHOUSE.

LI KWONG LOONG & CO.,

利公發傢俬

CABINET-MAKERS AND ART DECORATORS, from Shanghai, has re-opened their FURNITURE STORE at

No. 30, DES VŒUX ROAD CENTRAL.

The only Shop in Hongkong with this name.

WHERE HIGH-CLASS FURNITURE of every description can be made to order in any design required.

Have been patronised by the Hongkong Club, Hongkong Hotel, Telegraph Co., Messrs. A. S. Watson & Co., Firms and other leading Establishments in the Colony, to whom reference can be made as to the Superior Workmanship and Materials of the Furniture, &c., supplied.

Messrs. A. S. Watson & Co., Ltd., write as follows:—

"We have pleasure in stating that Mr. LI KWONG LOONG furnished the Annexe to our Dispensary and gave us every satisfaction."

(Sd.) A. S. WATSON & Co.

ORDERS punctually attended to, and CHARGES most moderate.

AN INSPECTION INVITED.

Hongkong, 6th August, 1908 [795

THERAPION MAY NOW ALSO BE OBTAINED IN DRAGEE (TASTELESS) FORM.

A BROKEN-DOWN SYSTEM

This is a condition (or dis ease) to which doctors give many names, but which few of them really understand. It is simply weakness—a break-down, as it were, of the vital forces that sustain the system. No matter what may be its causes (for they are almost numberless), its symptoms are much the same; the more prominent being sleeplessness, sense of prostration or weariness, depression of spirits and want of energy for all the ordinary affairs of life. Now, what alone is absolutely necessary in all such cases is *increased stability*—

VITAL STRENGTH & ENERGY

to throw off these morbid feelings, and experience proves that as night succeeds the day this may most certainly accrue by a course of

THE NEW FRENCH REMEDY

THERAPION No. 3

than by any other known combination. Be surely sure it is taken in accordance with the printed directions accompanying it, will the shattered health be restored.

THE EXPIRING LAMP OF LIFE LIGHTED UP AFRESH,

and a new existence imparted in place of what had so lately seemed worn-out, used up, and valueless. This wonderful restorement is purely vegetable and innocuous, is agreeable to the taste, suitable for all constitutions and conditions, is either sex; and it is difficult to imagine a case of disease or debilitation, whose main features are those of debility, that will not be speedily and permanently benefited by this never-failing recuperative essence, which is destined to cast into oblivion everything that had preceded it for this wide-spread and numerous class of human ailments.

THERAPION is sold by the principal Chemists throughout the world. Price in England 2/9 per packet. Purchasers should see that the word "THERAPION" appears on British Government Stamp (in white letters on a red ground) affixed to every package by order of His Majesty's Hon. Commissioners, and without which it is a forgery.

Sold by all Chemists. [631—0

Auctions.

PUBLIC AUCTION

OF

A MAGNIFICENT COLLECTION

OF

OIL PAINTINGS,

from the PARIS SALON,

COMPRISING PAINTINGS BY THE WELL-KNOWN ARTISTS:

Charpentier, Renard, Serret, Didier, Pinggera, Ferry, Paulus, Dupin, Gerard, Lionetti, Constantin, Mayard, Montreu, Lencir, Holmstedt, Artot, Berquin, &c., &c.

ON

the 21st & 22nd DECEMBER, 1908, commencing each day at 2.30 P.M. in the City Hall (St. Andrew's).

N.B.—The attention of the Public is drawn to this opportunity of purchasing valuable works of art, which are the finest that have ever been offered for sale in this Colony.

Catalogues on application.

G. P. LAMMERT,
Auctioneer.

Hongkong, 14th December, 1908. [1078

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned have received instructions to sell by PUBLIC AUCTION, on MONDAY and TUESDAY, the 21st and 22nd December, 1908, at 10 A.M., at H.M. Naval Establishments,

SUNDRY OLD and SURPLUS NAVAL and VICTUALLING STORES,

Comprising:—

OLD and SURPLUS NAVAL STORES:—Iron Blocks, Hoses, Lamps and Lanterns, Tools Old Iron and Metal, Electric Cables, Old Boiler, Steam Hammer, Coal Sacks, Canvas Rags, Old India-Rubber Old Leather, Carpets, Mattings, Old Boats, Furniture, &c.

OLD and SURPLUS VICTUALLING STORES:—Provisions, Seamen's Clothing, Blankets, Officer's Mess Traps, (A quantity of Electro-plated Articles), Implements, Seamen's Mess Utensils, Oak Staves, &c.

Catalogues will be issued.

TERMS OF SALE:—As Customary.

HUGHES & HOUGH,
Government Auctioneers.

Hongkong, 1st December, 1908. [1036

Intimations.

LEE YEE

HAIR DRESSING SALOON

HAS ALWAYS ON HAND

CIGARS, CIGARETTES AND TOILET REQUISITES FOR SALE.

12, D'AGUILAR STREET,
HONGKONG.

Hongkong, 2nd September, 1907 [28

Intimations.

GREEN ISLAND CEMENT COMPANY, LIMITED.

PORTLAND CEMENT.

In Casks of 375 lbs. net $5.50 per Cask ex Factory.

In Bags of 250 lbs. net $3.45 per Bag ex Factory

SHEWAN TOMES & Co.,
General Managers.

Hongkong, 15th August, 1908. [15

THERAPION MAY NOW ALSO BE OBTAINED IN DRAGEE (TASTELESS) FORM.

THE NEW FRENCH REMEDY

TRADE THERAPION MARK.

This successful and highly popular remedy, used in the Continental Hospitals by Ricord, Rostan, Jobert, Velpeau and others, combines all the desiderata to be sought in a medicine of the kind, and surpasses everything hitherto employed.

THERAPION No. 1 is a remarkably short time, often a few days only, removes all discharges, effectually superseding injections, the use of which does irreparable harm by laying the foundation of stricture and other serious diseases. In dysentery, piles, irritation of the lower bowel, cough, bronchitis, asthma, and some of the more trying complaints of this kind, it will be found astonishingly efficacious, affording prompt relief where other well-tried remedies have been powerless.

THERAPION No. 2 for impurity of blood, scurvy, pimples, spots, blotches, pains and swelling of joints, secondary symptoms, gout, rheumatism, and all diseases for which it has been too much a fashion to employ mercury, sarsaparilla, &c., to the destruction of sufferers' teeth and ruin of health. This preparation purifies the whole system through the blood, and thoroughly eliminates all poisonous matter from the body.

THERAPION No. 3 for exhaustion, sleeplessness, and all distressing consequences of dissipation, worry, overwork, early error, excess, &c. It possesses surprising power in restoring strength and vigour to those suffering from enervating influences of long residence in hot, unhealthy climates.

THERAPION is sold by principal Chemists throughout the world. Price in England 2/9 per packet. Mode of ordering, state which of the three numbers required, and observe above Trade-mark, which is a facsimile of the word "THERAPION" as it appears on British Government Stamp (in white letters on a red ground) affixed to every package by order of His Majesty's Hon. Commissioners, and without which it is a forgery.

Sold by all Chemists. 61—0

SAINT-RAPHAEL

TONIC, RESTORATIVE, DIGESTIVE WINE.

Very palatable.

Known throughout the world and prescribed in all cases of Anæmia, Debility and Convalescence, to young women, children and the aged. Invaluable in hot climates.

DOSE: One wine-glass after the two principal meals.

Each bottle of genuine VIN SAINT-RAPHAEL *bears, in addition to the registered trade-mark:*

(1) The WARRANTY STAMP of the UNION DES FABRICANTS.
(2) A METAL SEAL advertising CLETEAS.

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ALEXANDRA BUILDINGS
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KOWLOON DISPENSARY.
Hongkong, 19th December, 1908 [13

The Hongkong Telegraph

HONGKONG, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 19, 1908.

MISPLACED CONFIDENCE.

When an individual blatantly declares that he is a cosmopolitan, 'a citizen' of the world, the average man is apt to regard him with a certain amount of suspicion, for it is not in the nature of things that people should inferentially disown their nationality But according to the Chief Justice, who still retains his happy knack of introducing extraneous questions into his judgments, very much after the fashion of the writer who introduces an anecdote to point and adorn a dreary dissertation on metaphysics, there may be in Hongkong residents who, so far as nationality inherited or acquired is concerned, are possessed of neither the one nor the other. There are also residents who are cursed with the possession of a double nationality, which is the way of the world all over. One man has more than enough and another has nothing whatever. As the reader may surmise, this interesting subject arose in connection with a bankruptcy suit, involving the eternal question of domicile, with which, fortunately, we have nothing to do. The debtor had apparently claimed that he was a native of Hongkong and consequently a British subject. In order to substantiate this claim he submitted a certificate bearing the signature of Sir George Bowen, who was then Governor of Hongkong, and dated 21st July, 1884. That certificate was given under the seal of the Colony and was to the effect that having examined two affidavits of birth His Excellency was satisfied that the debtor in the action now before the Court was born in the Colony and therefore that he believed him to be a British subject. So far it is all plain sailing. A Chinaman claims that he was born in the Colony; two others swear that to their certain knowledge the statement is correct; the Governor, seeing no reason to doubt the fact and acting under permissive instructions from the Secretary of State set forth in a despatch dated August, 1862, grants the application that the claimant be recognised as a British subject and signs a certificate to that effect. Proud in his possession of the parchment, which bears the formidable seal of the Colony the Chinaman deposits it in his family archives and probably forgets all about it. Four-and-twenty years after having, to the satisfaction of the head of the Government of the Colony, shown his title to be regarded as a British subject, the owner of the certificate finds himself in financial difficulties and for certain reasons is required to give proof of his nationality. Naturally he produces the official document which was signed, sealed and delivered in 1884 and his creditors are perfectly content with it, the very seal probably frightening them into submission. The debtor is a British subject and, as they say in America, "that's all there is to it." But when the debtor comes into Court a surprise awaits him. Not only does the judge view the document with suspicion, and cavil at the simplicity of a former Governor who trusted to the affidavits of two witnesses, and regard with something akin to scorn the imprimatur of the seal, but he actually holds that the certificate of birth is worthless. It is no value whatever in an English port for any legal purpose. It is a mere trumpery slip of waste paper, good enough for children to admire and preserve but absurd as evidence in a court of justice. By whom were the affidavits made anyway? Besides, even if the certificate was regular in respect to the sworn testimony, it should have been issued by the Registrar-General. The Chief Justice did not go the length of declaring that because the Governor exercised the functions of Registrar-General the certificate was necessarily invalidated, but that would appear to be a fair presumption, although it is difficult to understand why a document signed, sealed and certified by the chief authority of the Colony from whom all power radiates—the Chief Justice being probably the only official who is not directly under the control of the Governor—should be of less value than one issued by a subordinate. But even if the Registrar-General had exercised the functions of his office in granting a certificate of birth, the Chief Justice did not think that even then the entries in his registers would be conclusive evidence of the facts. It would have been interesting to learn what further proof His Honour does expect to receive when questions as to the birthplace of a suitor do crop up in Court? The Chief Justice complains that all the certificate contained was an expression of the Governor's belief that the debtor was born in Hongkong. Was it to be expected that Sir George Bowen should declare positively that of his own knowledge the Chinaman did first open his eyes and squall vociferously on British soil? We should not envy the position of any Governor or even any Registrar-General whose functions included attendance on the delicate occasions when children are ushered into this weary world. As we have endeavoured to show, His Honour viewed the birth certificate bearing the Governor's sign-manual as valueless. What would constitute proof of birth in the Colony in the event of a question of identity being raised? The other day a gentleman named Albert Kirby Fairfax, a native of the United States, submitted a claim to the House of Lords claiming "the title, honour and dignity of Lord Fairfax of Cameron in the peerage of Scotland." The Lord Chancellor and three Law Lords, together with other peers, heard the claim. Counsel for the claimant stated that nearly the whole family papers that would have been useful in establishing the claim had been lost or destroyed during the American Civil War. In those circumstances, it was necessary to have recourse to secondary evidence, and the only record which could be produced was the Fairfax family Bible. Apparently there were no other papers except the photograph of a tombstone and some family letters, but on the motion of the Lord Chancellor the right of the claimant to the peerage was held to have been established, and Lord Fairfax takes rank with the Scottish nobles. Now, would the simple fact that a certain entry appeared in a family Bible be accepted as conclusive evidence in favour of a suitor in Hongkong? If the alleged son of this Chinese debtor had to submit proof of his father's birth-place in order to secure an inheritance would a family record suffice? Apparently not, if all that could be produced was a certificate signed by the Governor and stamped with the seal of the Colony. He would be told to hunt up the gentlemen who swore to the affidavits and after having resurrected the gentlemen he would have the satisfaction of learning that an official document issued in Hongkong is of no legal value in a Hongkong court of justice. Then again, a Chinaman who is a natural born subject of King Edward, might fancy that he would secure a greater degree of attention and protection if having claimed and received his papers from the Governor of the Colony he proceeded to Saigon, we will say, and asserted himself to be a British subject, producing his birth certificate in proof of his claim. That, according to the Chief Justice, shows the danger of issuing such certificates. One never knows what a foreigner will do and as His Honour very properly said these certificates were sometimes vised by foreign consuls for use in foreign ports. And he added, "It may well be that, being under the seal of the Colony, they would receive a larger measure of credence so far as the fact of birth is concerned than they are entitled to." It is deplorable to imagine that a document signed by the highest authority in the Colony, but which is nevertheless utterly worthless in Hongkong, should actually impose upon foreigners. What is the world coming to? Of course, it should be remembered that this was the first time the learned Chief Justice had ever seen such a certificate of birth, but his animadversions on its character should be well digested by Governors and Registrars-General before they again play ducks and drakes with official papers, affidavits and colonial seals. Still it is curious that if these certificates are valueless in Hongkong the Home Government continues to put a certain amount of faith in them, for when the subject of engaging Chinese seamen in British ports was on the tapis some time ago it was distinctly laid down that the Government had no power to interfere with those Chinese hands who had been born in Hongkong or Singapore. We started by observing that while some people disclaim any nationality there are others who are burdened with an extra supply. There are apparently in Hongkong recipients of certificates declaring them to be British subjects who are at the same time subjects of the Son of Heaven—"unfortunate victims of double nationality" is the Chief Justice's expression. Conversely there are in all probability Chinese who are of no nationality whatever. What it all amounts to the reader is at liberty to figure out for himself. It should prove a pleasant Sunday afternoon pastime.

TWO SIDES OF THE QUESTION.

While questions affecting the nationality and domicile of our Chinese neighbours are on the carpet, it may not be inappropriate to compare the views of two Britishers in different spheres of life respecting Chinese inclinations. In the early part of this week the Chief Justice of Hongkong, discussing a matter of domicile, maintained that there was hardly a hundred pukka Chinese domiciled in Hongkong. In another judgment delivered later His Honour went further and said that in his belief: "hardly any Chinaman who is merely a trader here ever tears himself away root and branch from his family village in China which is what is required to establish a domicile in this Colony; the whole idea of a permanent establishment in Hongkong with a fixed determination never to return to the ancestral village otherwise than as a visitor seems to me inconsistent with the normal ideas of a Chinaman." Now we will submit the opinion of a representative Far Eastern merchant, Mr. A. H. Drew, who has had a varied experience of Chinese in the Straits Settlements. Speaking at the annual Straits dinner, held in London in November last, Mr. Drew referred to the amicable relations existing between the British merchants and the Chinese traders who had come as immigrant coolies to the Straits Settlements. He remarked: "The Chinese come to us as labourers, they stay with us as traders, many of them, and many of our most respected citizens are the sons and grandsons of the original settlers, and we find among these men our most wealthy shipowners and merchants.—Those of the Chinese race born in the Colony are as proud of their nationality as anyone in this room, and they are even more loyal to the Colony than men of British birth, for when they have made their competency they are willing to spend the rest of their days in the place where they have found so much prosperity." That certainly conflicts with the view held by the Chief Justice. Yet Mr. Drew was speaking of what he has learned from personal contact with the Chinese and to clinch matters he spoke of the continued immigration of Chinese to the Straits. If the Chinese did not desire to settle down in the Straits, if they had no regard for the British flag, if they found themselves badly treated they might long for the delights of China, and dissuade their friends from emigrating to British territory, but when they have acquired a competency and remember the "squeeze pidgin" to which they would be subjected by mandarinate cupidity should they return to China and compare the conditions with those existing in their native villages, they adopt the wisest course and decide to remain where they are. They do more, they invite their compatriots to follow their example and seek their fortunes on the hospitable shores of the British Empire. Mr. Drew in pointing out this fact remarked: "You will, probably, be surprised to find that in the present depressed condition of the Colony, and although for four months of this year quarantine regulations were in force which seriously affected the immigration, during the last eight months, we have had 400 Chinamen landing in Singapore every day, and in the times of prosperity we have had as many as 600." We wonder how many of these immigrants retain their domicile in their native villages and hold a fixed determination to return and settle down in their ancestral homes when they have won their way to success? Not many, if all reports be true, despite the assertion of His Honour the Chief Justice of Hongkong. It may be said that the conditions in Hongkong are altogether different from those in Singapore. It may be so; not many people find the difference overwhelming.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

WE are informed by the Colonial Secretary that Bangkok has been declared to be an infected port.

THE evening service at St. Peter's Church on Sunday next will be preceded by a carol service commencing at 6 o'clock.

WE have received a wall calendar for 1909 from Messrs. Siemssen & Co. as agents for the Sun Fire Office of London.

MR. S. B. C. ROSS has been appointed District Officer in the New Territories with effect from the 6th instant, until further notice.

THE King's Exequatur empowering Mr. JOAO JOAQUIM LEIRIA to act as Consul for Portugal and for Brazil at Hongkong has received His Majesty's signature.

THE master of the German s.s. *Lysonk* reports passing a sunken derelict junk with her fore and aft ends above water. Position:—About latitude 20° 35 N. Longitude 113° 8' E.

HIS Excellency the Governor has been pleased to re-appoint the Honourable Mr. HEWETT to be a member of the Sanitary Board for a further period of three years, with effect from the 19th instant.

MR. T. H. G. Brayfield has been appointed engineer surveyor for private steam-launches under 60 tons, in place of Mr. H. L. Fletcher absent from the Colony, during the absence on leave of Mr. H. F. Carmichael.

HIS Excellency the Governor has been pleased, with the approval of the Secretary of State for the Colonies, to appoint Mr. J. F. Boulton to be second assistant Director of Public Works, with effect from the 13th November, 1908.

HIS Majesty the King has not been advised to exercise his power of disallowance with respect to Ordinance No. 8 of 1908, entitled an Ordinance to extend the provisions of The Liquor Ordinance, 1898 and to provide for the grant of brewery licenses.

WITH reference to the collection of oil-paintings now being offered for sale at the City Hall, particulars of which will be found in our advertisement columns, we are asked to state that the Exhibition will be open to the public to-morrow. There are, no doubt, many people in Hongkong who are anxious to come across really good works of art. They should not miss this unique opportunity of adding to their stock of fine pictures.

THIS afternoon, in dirty weather, Hongkongites were treated to a fine specimen of America's national game—baseball. Despite the inclemency of the weather, a large number of people turned out to witness the play—for it is not often that Hongkong has the opportunity of watching the game of baseball—and everyone present pronounced the show a great success. The professionals were veritable giants and the local team were rather handicapped by the superior "business" of their formidable opponents. It is rather unfortunate that rainy weather marred the proceedings, but if those in charge can see their way to arrange a second match, we feel sure that it will be as well attended—if not better—as this afternoon's play.

AT about one o'clock last night, an attempted burglary took place at the premises of Messrs. Graça & Co., stamp dealers, situated in Des Voeux Road. An entry was forced by means of a hole (2 ft. by 1 ft.) cut in the back door Before the would-be burglar could lay hands on anything, the boy was roused from his sleep, which had the effect of driving Bill Sikes away. We understand that a similar attempt was made some three days ago by trying to smash the show-window. Besides a slight mark on the pane there is nothing to show that thiefs have been prowling about the place with intent to burglary, the burglar evidently having been rudely interrupted in his work. The matter has been reported to the police, who are taking the necessary steps to hunt down the culprit.

AT St. Andrew's Church, Kowloon, to-morrow, (Fourth Sunday in Advent) the Holy Communion will be administered at the close of the Evening Service. Morning Prayer and Sermon at 11 a.m.—attended (weather permitting) by the Church parade party of "H" Company, 2nd Batt. "The Buffs." Children's Service at 3 p.m. Evening Prayer and Sermon at 6 p.m. The Offertories will be in aid of the Church Maintenance Fund, which is still in the Treasurer's debt, besides having some heavy claims to meet in the near future. It is hoped that all seat rents overdue, and other contributions intended, for 1908, will be remitted without further delay. The decoration of the Church for the Christmas services will be undertaken by friends volunteering on Thursday next between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.

THE CHUNG SHA-WAN TRAGEDY.

THE JURY'S VERDICT.

The trial of Chu Yuen Fuk for the alleged murder of Chiel Yun at Cheung-sha-wan, on the 25th ulto., was continued at the Criminal Sessions this morning.

The case for the Crown having been concluded, Mr. Bellilios (for the defence) stated that it was the deceased who first attacked the prisoner with the knife. In the scuffle deceased dropped the knife, and it was then that the prisoner got possession of it. The prisoner was thrown to the ground, he was being throttled, and being the weaker man he stabbed the deceased in self-defence. In addition Counsel submitted that there was no evidence adduced by the Crown to prove premeditation.

The Attorney General addressed the jury, saying that the prisoner's story was incredible. He directed the jury that their verdict was murder or manslaughter.

The Chief Justice then summed up, and the jury, after retiring, returned a verdict of manslaughter (with a recommendation to mercy) and sentence of two years' hard labour was passed.

Laichikok Observation Station.

GOVERNMENT'S NEW REGULATIONS.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE'S PROTEST.

The Chairman of the Hongkong Chamber of Commerce brought to the attention of the Committee on the 5th inst. the additional regulations to Merchant Shipping Consolidation Ordinance (No. 10 of 1899) made by the Governor in Council on 23rd November, 1908, under section 23 of the above Ordinance.

The Chairman pointed out that under the new regulations the owners of "infected" vessels placed under observation would be subject to such expenses as the cost of lymph, disinfectants, water, lighting, police guard, nurses, wardmasters, medicines and medical comforts, &c., &c., in fact the whole cost of Observation Station.

It was considered that such an imposition would cause many owners to send their vessels when engaged in the coolie trade direct to such Coast Ports as Foochow, Amoy and Swatow to the detriment of the interests of the Colony.

The Committee thought that the regulations governing the port of Singapore under which Shipping Companies pay for the actual cost of keep of their quarantined passengers, for disinfection of the vessels, and for burial expenses only were more equitable.

Government made regulations obliging owners to set down infected passengers at a certain spot where they were detained at the will of the Government. Government should therefore pay the cost of the upkeep of such establishments which were maintained in the interests of the Colony.

The Committee decided to protest against the new regulations.

CANTON DAY BY DAY.

ISSUE OF OPIUM LICENCES.

[*From Our Own Correspondent.*]

Canton, 18th December.

The issue of opium licences in the form of wooden boards to smokers should have commenced at the beginning of the 10th moon, but as these licences all bear the year of reign of the late Emperor Kwang Hsu, they have now to be altered into that of Hsuan Tung before they can be distributed. The Police authorities have given instructions to have the necessary alterations completed at an early date. The licences will be issued in the 1st moon of the next Chinese year.

CONSULAR VISIT.

At 10 a.m. this morning the Viceroy received the Japanese Consul at Canton.

CONSUL-GENERAL TO AUSTRALIA

Taotai Liang Lan Fun, the newly appointed Chinese Consul-General to Australia, called on the Viceroy and other officials yesterday to take his leave. He will shortly leave here to proceed to his destination to take up his new appointment.

NATIONAL MOURNING.

It is an established custom in China that, on the occasion of national mourning on account of the death of any Emperor, no theatrical performance is allowed for a period of one hundred days. Last week the Yiu Shan Yuk theatrical troupe failed to comply with this observance and gave a performance in the Tsang Shing district. The matter has been reported to the Canton officials by the gentry of the locality, where the theatrical effects of the troupe have been detained.

ARMED ROBBERY.

On the 8th day of this moon a daring armed robbery took place in a house belonging to one Kwok Tung, in the Nei Tong village, in Pan Yu, where the robbers carried away a large quantity of valuable articles in addition to two men, one named Kwok Ah Cheung and the other Kwok Ah Yiu, whose whereabouts have not yet been ascertained.

A GERMAN SCHOOL.

In the 1st moon next Chinese new year, a German school will be opened in this city, at Po Hing street, in the Western suburb, under the directorship of a German representative here for the training of Chinese students in the German language. The proposed institution will be the first German school to be opened in the Southern Capital of China for the benefit of Chinese youths. Prospectuses are being distributed inviting Chinese students to enter the school. The monthly fee is $ for a scholar and the course is one of three years. Students will also be supplied with stationery free of charge as well as books. Intending Chinese students must possess a fair knowledge of their own language.

AN ENCOUNTER WITH ROBBERS.

At 4 p.m. on the 15th instant attempts were made by the soldiers of the Lam Lo Mac camp, at Honam, to raid a house near Fung Wong Kong, where some fifteen robbers were then, taking refuge. When the soldiers approached to surround the building, the robbers vigorously fought their way for life and all made good their escape by killing three of the soldiers and wounding two others; no arrests were made.

A RISING FEARED.

The officials in this city seem to be in a state of alarm lest the anarchists sooner or later break out in open revolt. Though four of them have been arrested and two were beheaded as reported yesterday, the high authorities have given strict orders to their subordinates to exercise their utmost vigilance in keeping a sharp look-out against surprises.

CRIMINAL SESSIONS ADJOURNED.

TOO MUCH WORK IN HAND OF CHIEF JUSTICE.

Before the Criminal Sessions resumed this morning, the Chief Justice said that he had seven or eight days' work in hand and only three days in which to do it. He would adjourn the sessions, after the case in hand was completed until January 4th, 1909. Jurors are requested to attend on that date.

Telegrams.

"HONGKONG TELEGRAPH" SERVICE.

CANTON-HANKOW RAILWAY.

HUNAN-HUPEH SECTION.

[*By courtesy of the "Sheung Po."*]

Peking, 18th December.

H.E. Chang Chih-tung is determined to raise a loan in England for the construction of the section of the Canton-Hankow Railway in Hunan and Hupeh with a view to its early completion.

A NEW LINE.

TSEUNG YEUNG TO HANKOW.

[*By courtesy of the "Sheung Po."*]

Peking, 18th December.

The Ministry of Posts and Communications has decided to raise a foreign loan for the construction of a railway from Tseung Yeung to Hankow.

SZE-CHUAN-HANKOW RAILWAY.

UNOFFICIAL MANAGEMENT.

[*By courtesy of the "Sheung Po."*]

Peking, 18th December.

It has been decided by the Ministry of Posts and Communications that the Sze-chuan-Hankow Railway shall be placed under the management of the people.

DR. SUN YAT-SEN.

NOT WANTED AT BANGKOK.

[*By courtesy of the "Sheung Po."*]

Singapore, 19th December.

The other day when the Chinese residents in Singapore went into mourning (for the late Emperor Kwang Su) they were interfered with by certain revolutionists who created a disturbance.

The Colonial Authorities strongly reprimanded the leader (of the riot) Sun Wan (Dr. Sun Yat-sen).

Thereupon Sun left for Bangkok.

The Siamese Governor, however, refused him an asylum within Siamese territory and ordered Sun out of the country fearing lest he might disturb the public peace.

Sun, accordingly, quietly proceeded back to Singapore.

THE DIPLOMATIC CORPS IN PEKING.

DESIRE AN IMPERIAL AUDIENCE.

[*By courtesy of the "Sheung Po."*]

Peking, 18th December.

The foreign Ministers in Peking having completed their period of mourning have addressed communications to the Waiwupu asking for a date to be fixed when they may be received in audience by the new Emperor.

INTERNATIONAL RAILWAY.

CHINA'S REPRESENTATIVE.

[*By courtesy of the "Sheung Po."*]

Peking, 18th December.

There will be an International Conference on Railways at Brussels.

The Ministry of Posts and Communications propose to appoint Jim Tin-yao as China's representative at the Conference.

SHIPPING AND MAILS.

MAILS DUE.

French (*Tonkin*) 22nd inst.
Indian (*Arratoon Apcar*) 23rd inst.
Canadian (*Empress of Japan*) 31st inst.
German (*Prinz Sigismund*) 6th prox.

The s.s. *Inverie* arrived at Kobe yesterday.

The s.s. *Rubi* left Manila on 19th inst., and is due here on 21st inst., at 6 p.m.

The N. Y. K. s.s. *Kumano Maru*, Australian Line, left Manila for this port on 19th inst., and is expected here on 21st inst.

The N. Y. K. s.s. *Wakasa Maru*, European Line, left Shanghai for this port on 18th inst., and is expected here on 21st inst., a.m.

The N. Y. K. s.s. *Shinano Maru*, American Line, left Kobe for this port *via* Moji and Shanghai on 18th inst., and is expected here on 27th inst.

The N. Y. K. s.s. *Hirano Maru*, European Line, left Kobe for this port *via* Moji and Shanghai on 19th inst., and is expected here on 28th inst.

The Java-China-Japan Line s.s. *Tjisaroe* left Shanghai *via* Amoy for this port on 18th inst., a.m., and may be expected here on 23rd inst., a.m. She will leave for Java ports on same date, p.m.

Telegrams.

[Reuter's.]

Sir Robert Hart.

LONDON, 17th December.

Sir Robert Hart was presented with the freedom of the city of London yesterday.

Russia.

A stormy debate has taken place in the Duma, on a Bill for indemnifying the victims of the Terrorists.

The Socialists and Labourites denounced the executions and tortures, and the President of the Duma resigned in consequence of the attitude of the conservatives, and demands an apology from the Labourites.

Later.

Turkey.

The Sultan drove in an open carriage of state to open the new parliament, where he was cheered by immense crowds.

The Sultan stood throughout the drive.

All Djevad Bey read the speech from the throne, in which the Sultan said that he was heartily glad to restore the constitution and his will was unalterable in that respect.

His Majesty regretted that the Bulgarians had departed from the path of loyalty and proclaimed their independence; he regretted to announce that Austria-Hungary had illegally annexed Bosnia and Herzigovinia, contrary to international good faith and hoped that with the good offices of a friendly power those questions would be peacefully settled.

The South Manchuria Railway Loan.

The South Manchurian Railway Loan was over-subscribed tenfold.

The United States.

Mr. Pulatzer's paper, the *World*, retorts to President Roosevelt's message to Congress by calling the President a bully, a wholesale slanderer and a bulldoger of Judges.

BELILIOS VERNACULAR SCHOOL.

PRIZE DISTRIBUTION.

There was a large attendance of both European and Chinese ladies to witness the distribution of prizes to the scholars of Belilios Vernacular School, which was held this forenoon.

The Inspector of Schools (Mr. E. D. C. Wolfe) presided, and after the prizes had been presented, he addressed the gathering. He congratulated the teachers for the good work they had done during the year. He was glad that the school was not only increasing in numbers, but, in efficiency, too. He drew attention to the average attendance for the past years. In 1906, he said, the average attendance was 187; last year it was 237. This year the attendance had decreased slightly—about 237.27. The highest enrolment last year was not over 300. In February of this year there were over 362 names in the books of the school. The reason for the decrease in the attendance, Mr. Wolfe added, was due to the bad outbreak of plague. In February the average attendance was 311; in June 187 and in July 197, which was proof that the dropping off was due to the epidemic. He hoped plague would not return next year to spoil the attendance, which otherwise was on the increase. There was this to be considered. Now that the attendance was on the increase and the fact that the Government had been forced to increase the number of teachers, but their number was still too small now, and in spite of the decision of the Retrenchment Committee and other unpleasant things of that kind; the school staff was to be further increased. In conclusion, Mr. Wolfe congratulated the headmaster and his assistants for the school's efficiency and hoped that it would be maintained.

The inspector's report on the school was read, as follows:—

Staff.—Sung Hok Pang, 5 assistant teachers, one needlework teacher and 3 pupil teachers.

Discipline and Organization.—The discipline is very good and there is a noticeable change in this respect in the lower standards.

Organization.—The work of the school continues to be very satisfactory. There is, however, a tendency especially in the lower standards to try and do too much, e.g., in composition the answers were very long but often not to the point and not written in the best style. Shorter, more concise answers in good Chinese, would have raised the standard of this work materially.

The work of the lower classes should not be left entirely to the mistresses. The masters who teach the upper standards should give a series of lessons every week in the lower standards. The pupils will then be able to enlarge their stock of ideas especially in composition.

Sanitation.—Very satisfactory.

Apparatus.—Very satisfactory.

Floor Space.—Sufficient for 432 pupils.

Chinese: Reading.—Very good in all standards excepting III and IV. Standards III & IV good on the whole. The pupils in Standard III do not speak distinctly. The lowest standards have greatly improved in this respect.

Composition.—Very good in the Upper Standards: V, VI & VII and in II. Good to fair in I, fair in III & IV. Marks were lost in Standard III as many of the good essays were absolutely alike in style and expression.

Arithmetic: Mental.—Good.

Writing.—Very good. The standard of work is very high. In Standard V all the pupils obtained full marks.

Geography: Political.—Very good.
Physical.—Standard V fair. Standards VI and VII good.

History.—Standard VI: A little weak. Standard VII: Very good.

Hygiene.—Very good in Standards IV and V. Good in Standards VI and VII.

Needlework.—Very good.

After the ceremony visitors paid a visit to the art room, where some exceedingly pretty needlework was inspected.

Silver and the Exchanges.

U.S. MONETARY COMMISSION.

HONGKONG CHAMBER OF COMMERCE REPRESENTATIVE TO ATTEND.

The following correspondence was considered at the monthly meeting of the General Committee of the Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce held on the 5th inst.:—

Government House,
Ottawa, October 26th, 1908.

Dear Sir,—It is evident that the report of the U.S. Monetary Commission will bring up once more the entire question of Silver and the Exchanges.

I enclose copy of a letter I have to-day received from Senator Teller of that Commission and I think you may like to lay it before your Chamber.

We in England have no longer any organization such as before 1906 provided us with information from the Far East; but if it were possible for a representative of your Chamber to attend at Washington between November and April 1908-1909, 1909-1910 the Commission would, I am sure, greatly value such evidence.

Meanwhile any statement addressed to me care of Senator Teller, Washington, D.C., U.S.A., will be valued and very carefully considered.—Yours etc.,

(Sgd.), MORETON FREWAN.

The President,
Chamber of Commerce,
Hongkong.

United States Senate,
Washington, D.C.,
October, 1908.

Dear Mr. Moreton Frewan,—I am obliged to you for your note. While the Monetary Commission would prefer your evidence just as early as possible after the date of its sittings (November 10th) I follow that you would like to give it the latest returns you can procure in England as to prices and wages in the Orient.

I quite agree that the real storm centre of our inquiry will not emerge either from our currency or from yours, but from the deplorable collapse in the gold price of silver. In other words, our troubles come not from our currency but from our exchanges. In the world's history of the two precious metals, we have hitherto experienced two and only two great variations in their prices *inter se*—the fall in the price of silver in 1893 occasioned by the closing of the Indian Mints and the collapse last year which resulted from the failure of the rains in Hindustan. On each occasion the suffering and disaster was unspeakable, and that given the same cause we shall have a recurrence of the effects I have no doubt. For thirty years past the conviction has been borne in upon me that any collapse in silver, or in other words, in the silver exchange with all Asia must cut down the purchasing power of one half the human race, upset our exports and especially yours to Asia, and culminate in a money panic. To-day a Chinaman must give 12 Taels for 5 Gold Dollars; a year ago he gave 9; at the old ratio he gave 5 Taels only for 5 Gold Dollars. We know that the wages of the Chinaman at his home, and the silver prices at which he markets his produce, are no higher than when he bought Gold Dollars for 5 Silver Taels; the consequence then of such a collapse in silver as we had last year must be to destroy all our export trades across the Pacific. We know that by comparison with even two years ago no ship now leaving San Francisco, or Portland or Seattle for Asiatic Ports can get any cargo at all. Secretary Root has sent a circular to all our Consuls in Asia asking them whether since the collapse of silver in 1907 those firms which import from us and from you have been subject as we should expect to serious losses. Can you bring me some further evidence on your return as to this? Have the export trades of Lancashire for example suffered as have our Lowell Cotton Mills, during the great break in silver exchange of the last 18 months? Again are there the evidences not merely in the last year but in the last thirty years, that the displacement of the old 15 1/2 to 1 relation between the metals has resulted in unwonted industrial activities in Asia and in a competition disastrous to white workers? Five gold dollars (or one sovereign) used to purchase five taels only, and five taels then paid the wages for one day of twenty-five Chinese mill hands; while to-day five gold dollars buy 12 taels and 12 taels pay a day's wage for not twenty-five, but 60 Chinese mill hands. Such is the nature of the protest against cheapened silver which sums up our silver philosophy, and if you can secure from the Government of India Official Tables of Wages and prices concurring with the Tables which we already have of the Imperial Board of Maritime Customs in China our inquiry will be much advanced.

But what is more important by far is that our Commission should learn what are the intentions of the Government of India. Will that Government subscribe to our researches in a question all important to Indian finance, some official witness? I am of course merely asking this informally; we will make the proposal officially, if you can learn that it will be well received. But we do not wish to encounter a block negative. My colleague, Senator Wolcott, went to England in 1897 with a Commission from our Government. Our proposals were acceptable to the English and French Governments, but you will recall that at the last moment the Government of India was permitted to negative our proposal on the ground that the consequent rise in the exchange would kill India's export trade. The validity of their objection I quite admit; India's exports are not natural but are, as indeed are all the exports of Asia, largely dependent on cheaper silver and lowered exchanges. We have always declared that the yellow races with white money—money cheapened by white legislation—hold us industrially at their mercy.

Thus it is all-important for us to know where we stand to-day. The closing of the India Mints in 1893, has in my judgment starved the Indian currency, and has prevented silver prices and wages there from rising. Again the great expansion of the currencies of the gold nations because of the new gold has inflated gold prices. If silver prices and wages do not rise, and gold prices and wages do rise it is quite clear that owing to the pressure of Asiatic exports industry after industry now employing white working men must close down to be replaced in the world's economy by mills and factories manned with yellow labour in Asia; in short the labour cost of what Asia manufactures for export has been already cut in half, by the reduction in the gold price of Silver. Possibly the interests of the people of India are subserved by these low exchanges with closed Mints; certainly the industries of China where no Mints are closed are being stimulated by low exchanges, and already China has commenced to manufacture steel, but that a great civilised Government should be making a profit as to-day of 50 per cent by selling currency of unlimited legal tender to three hundred million of its citizens; that the currency of India should be manipulated as to-day by a few officials, whose purchases or non-purchases of silver bullion elevate or depress all the world's exchanges in China—this is so opposed to every theory of your own economists that I must not venture to press the point further. But this at least I may say; subscriptions have been collected in America during the past few years to succour starving Hindus who had on their persons all the material of a famine reserve fund in the shape of bangles and ornaments and only that the Indian Mints were closed and the mintage of Rupees made a most profitable monopoly of the Indian Government. Let me ask you what your view would be if we had a famine in the United States; if our people had vast stores of gold in bars and bangles accumulated during a thousand years, and if we closed our Mints to the free coinage of gold at a moment of acute famine and disaster.

I now come to the point which greatly concerns our Commission. I personally am in favour of the proposal advanced by Lord Herschell and the gold Members of your Royal Commission upon currency which reported in 1888, namely, the issue of small notes of limited legal tender (40 Shillings), these notes to be secured by silver. This proposal was again advocated in 1891 by your Chancellor of Exchequer in what we here call the "Goschen plan." If our nation with England and Germany would issue these notes, would purchase with them and impound large central gold reserves, the Goschen plan would have a double effect. It would accumulate great gold reserves in New York, London and Berlin, the presence of which would keep money rates steady and low, and again by raising the price of silver bullion would raise all the rates of Exchange with Asia; thus enabling Asia to purchase from us and reducing the present bonus on all that she exports. Such a plan if adopted by one, two or three nations of the first rank would go far to settle both the silver question and the gold question, at least for a generation to come. But here we are again met with the Indian difficulty. Our purchases of Silver to secure the Goschen notes would certainly advance the price of silver to 86 cents per ounce (43 pence). At that point the Government of India might decide to melt up and sell Rupees, that is to say, at 85 cents per ounce, the bullion value of the Rupee would equal the present exchange value (16 pence), so that in the deliberations of our Commission we must at once confront this point; if we approve the Goschen plan, with or without Great Britain and Germany, will the Government of India consent to open their Mints when the price of Silver bullion has risen to 86 cents per ounce? Why would not Great Britain join with us heartily in the Goschen reform? A large central gold reserve is not less important to her than it is to us, while the rise in the exchanges with all Asia would occupy her people in her own mills and factories and bring back to her and to us a very real prosperity.

I have, I fear, written you at very great length. It is however possible for you to procure through the Indian Government some reply to this question, because we are quite certain to meet an almost insuperable obstacle in the attitude of that Government, and that the very outset of our inquiry.—I am, &c.,

(Sgd.) M. H. TELLER.

Mr. MORETON FREWAN, Government House, Ottawa, Canada.

It was decided to reply that a representative of the Chamber would attend the Commission if it could possibly be arranged.

SANITARY BOARD.

A meeting of the Sanitary Board will be held on Tuesday next at 3.45 p.m. Following are the orders of the day:—

Letter from Government relative to the appointment of Mr. Woodcock to act as Deputy Registrar and Accountant of the Supreme Court and Mr. Gibson and Mr. Craig to continue to act as Secretary, Sanitary Board.

Application for permission to erect two water closets on the 3rd and 4th floors of No. 13, Astor House, Queen's Road Central.

Macao mortality return for the weeks ending November 30th and December 7th, 1908.

Mortality statistics for the week ending 5th December and for the month ending 30th November, 1908.

Limewashing return for the fortnight ending December 1st 1908.

Rat return for the weeks ending December 12th and 19th, 1908.

Correspondence relative to the complaint against the scavenging and conservancy contractor for Kowloon &c.

Adam Gibson,
Secretary.

His Excellency the Governor has given his assent, in the name and on behalf of His Majesty, the King, to the following Ordinance passed by the Legislative Council:—Ordinance No. 22 of 1908, to empower a Magistrate to hold a Small Debts Court in the New Territories and to regulate the proceedings in relation thereto.

To-day's Advertisements.

ATTENTION IS CALLED TO THIS NOTICE OF AN EXTENSIVE SALE BY

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned have received instructions to sell by PUBLIC AUCTION,

FOR ACCOUNT OF THE CONCERNED,
ON
TUESDAY,
the 22nd DECEMBER, 1908, at 2.30 P.M., at their SALES ROOMS, No. 8, Des Vœux Road, corner of Ice House Street,

A VERY VALUABLE ASSORTMENT OF

GOLD AND DIAMOND JEWELRY,

COMPRISING:—

18-K. Gold Hunter Watches, Chimes Strike Repeater, Gold Hunter Watches, Star with Diamond, Diamond Case Watches, Gold and Diamond Chains with Modern Art Charm, Long Gold Chains with Diamond, Emeralds and Rubies, Highly Artistic Diamond Brooches, Hair Combs with Diamonds, &c.;

ALSO

One Sterling Silver Race Cup and a very neatly finished Silver Tea Set.

Catalogues will be issued.

On view on MONDAY, the 21st instant.

TERMS:—As usual.

N.B.—The whole consignment will be sold absolutely without reserve.

HUGHES & HOUGH,
Auctioneers.

Hongkong, 19th December, 1908. [1093

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned have received instructions to sell by
PUBLIC AUCTION,
FOR ACCOUNT OF THE CONCERNED,
on
WEDNESDAY,
the 23rd December, 1908, at 11 A.M., at their Sales Rooms, No. 8, Des Vœux Road, corner of Ice House Street,

A LARGE ASSORTMENT OF
WINES AND SPIRITS,
ALSO
A QUANTITY OF COCOA IN TINS.
(All in good Order and Condition).

TERMS:—As usual.

HUGHES & HOUGH,
Auctioneers.

Hongkong, 19th December, 1908. [1090

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned have received instructions to Sell by
PUBLIC AUCTION,
FOR ACCOUNT OF THE CONCERNED,
on
WEDNESDAY,
the 23rd December, 1908, at 2.30 P.M., at their Sales Rooms, No. 8, Des Vœux Road, corner of Ice House Street,

A QUANTITY OF
FANCY GOODS
(Suitable for X'mas Presents).

TERMS:—As usual.

HUGHES & HOUGH,
Auctioneers,

Hongkong, 19th December, 1908. [1091

COMMERCIAL.

WEEKLY SHARE LIST.

Messrs. Erich Georg & Co. write in their weekly share list at noon to-day:—

A very moderate business only has been done during the week under review. Rates, on the whole, have not changed much, but the general tendency is rather weakish, only few stocks being in demand. The sterling demand rate of exchange on London closes at 1s. 8 3/16d., while rates on Shanghai are Tls. 75¼ for a Bank T/T., and Tls. 76½ for a three days' sight Private Bill, the rate in Shanghai on this for a three days' sight Private draft being Tls. 75¼. Bar silver in London is quoted 22 3/16d., and Consols £83 11/16d. The Bank of England's rate of discount remains 2½ per cent, while the private market rate of discount is 2½ per cent.

Bank Shares.—Hongkong and Shanghais are rather weaker, and, after sales at $850 and $845, are offering at latter figure. The Shanghai quotation is $880 with an exchange of Tls. 73. The London rate is £82. Nationals are unchanged.

Marine Insurance Shares.—Unions sold at $840, but more shares are offering. China Traders and Cantons are unchanged. North Chinas have improved to buyers at Tls. 105. Yangtzes can be placed at $165.

Fire Insurance Shares.—Hongkongs sold at $330 and $325; closing with sellers at the lower figure. Chinas fetched 1106, and are wanted now at $107.

Shipping Shares.—Hongkong, Canton and Macaos sold at $29 and $29½, and have sellers at the higher rate. Shell Transport are quiet at 47s.; the London rate is 47s. 9d. sellers. Other stocks under this heading are unchanged and without sales.

Refineries.—There is a slightly better feeling for China Sugars, a small demand existing at $112½. Luzons remain neglected at $20.

Mining Shares.—Charbonnages have advanced to buyers at $595. Raubs sold at rates ranging between $9½ and $9, closing quiet at the lower figure. Chinese Engineering and Mining Company's shares can be placed at Tls. 17½; the total output of the Company's three mines for the week ended 28th ultimo, amounted to 24,556 tons of coal, and the sales during that period to 31,219 tons.

Docks, Wharves, Godowns, &c.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks have sellers at $91 and Fenwicks at $12. New Amoy Docks have inquiries at $78. Shanghai Docks have been sent to the north at Tls. 73; a wire from the north informs us that an interim dividend of Tls 2½ per share has been declared. Shanghai and Hongkew Wharves have fluctuated a good deal in the north, closing at Tls. 135. Hongkong and Kowloon Wharves sold and can be got at $43.

Lands, Hotels, and Buildings.—Hongkong Lands are on offer at $92. Shanghai Lands are quoted Tls. 117. Other stocks under this heading are unchanged, with no sales to report.

Cotton Mills.—Shanghai quotes: Ewos Tls. 75 ex the dividend of Tls. 5 per share paid on 16th instant. Internationals are quoted at Tls. 60 buyers, Laou Kung Mows Tls. 66 buyers, and Soychees Tls. 970 buyers. Hongkong Cottons have sellers at $10.

Sundry Manufacturing Companies.—Hongkong Electrics sold and have buyers at $184. Green Island Cements sold at $10 to $9.80, having buyers at $9.75 and sellers at $9.90. Ices are offering at $225. In other stocks under this heading nothing has been done and rates are unchanged.

Miscellaneous.—Langkats are quoted Tls. 860 ex the final dividend and bonus of together Tls. 20 per share, paid on 15th instant. Watkins sold and have buyers at $2. Watsons changed hands at $95 and $91, and have further inquiries. Nothing has been done in other stocks under this heading, and rates are unchanged.

TO-DAY'S EXCHANGE.

	Selling.
London—Bank T.T.	1/8½
Do. demand	1/8 3/16
Do. 4 months' sight	1/8 5/16
France—Bank T.T.	211
America—Bank T.T.	40½
Germany—Bank T.T.	171½
India T.T.	126½
Do. demand	126½
Shanghai—Bank T.T.	72½
Singapore—Bank T.T. per H.K. $100	72½
Japan—Bank T.T.	82½
Java—Bank T.T.	103½
	Buying.
4 months' sight L/C.	1/8 7/16
6 months' sight L/C.	1/8 9/16
3 days' sight San Francisco & New York	41½
4 months' sight do:	42½
30 days' sight Sydney & Melbourne	1/8 11/16
4 months' sight France	2 16
6 months' sight "	2.18
4 months' sight Germany	1.76
Bar Silver	22½
Bank of England rate	2½ %
Sovereign	11.78

CHINESE NEW YEAR.

EMIGRANTS HURRYING HOME FOR ANNUAL FESTIVITIES.

From all parts of Canada and the United States Chinese homeward bound to participate in the New Year's celebrations, have passed through Vancouver during the past couple of weeks, and many others will make their exodus from the country through Vancouver during the next thirty days, says the Vancouver *News-Advertiser* of Nov. 4. All accommodation on the steamer *Montcagle* has been booked, while the R.M.S. *Empress of India*, which will arrive this week from the Orient, will carry several hundred Celestials in the steerage on the return voyage. In former years nearly all of the Chinese in America returned to the Flowery Kingdom via this port, but recently hundreds have sailed from Seattle and Tacoma on the Holt liners, the steamer *Ning Chow* recently taking out over 100.

New Year's week in China is one great holiday in that country and every year tens of thousands of Chinese leave the United States and other countries late in the autumn for their native land to join in the festivities, which usually last about fourteen days. Thousands of Chinamen pass through Vancouver every year on their way home for the New Year celebrations, and nearly all of them return to America during the summer months.

Before any Chinaman can legally leave the country, he must be identified, and deposit his certificate of residence with the immigration authorities. Only one year's absence is allowed. When departing from the United States he or she must prove that they have in the United States a wife, parent or child or property worth $1,000, or in lieu thereof a debt of the same amount.

THE WEATHER.

The following report is from Mr. F. G. Figg, Director of the Hongkong Observatory:—

On the 19th at 12.05 p.—The barometer has risen over Japan, the depression having moved into the Pacific.

Pressure has increased over the S. coast of China and fallen in N. China. It is still high over the Yangtze Valley, and relatively low over the N. part of the China Sea.

Strong N. and N.E. winds to gales may be expected in the Formosa Channel and the N. part of the China Sea.

Hongkong Rainfall for the 24 hours ending 8 a.m. to-day, 0.21 inches.

FORECAST.

1.—Hongkong and Neighbourhood, N. to N.E. winds, strong; rainy at first, improving later.

2.—Formosa Channel, N.E. gale.

3.—South coast of China between Hongkong and Lamocks, same as No. 1.

4.—South coast of China between Hongkong and Hainan, same as No. 1.

To-day's Advertisements.

CRIMINAL SESSIONS.

AS the Court will not sit on MONDAY, the 21st instant, JURORS are informed that they will not be required to attend until MONDAY, the 4th January, 1909, at 10 A.M.

ARRATHOON SETH,
Registrar.

Registry, Supreme Court,
Hongkong, 19th December, 1908. [1092

DOUGLAS STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR SWATOW, AMOY AND FOOCHOW.

THE Company's Steamship
"HAICHING,"
Captain Passmore, will be despatched for the above Ports, on THURSDAY, the 22nd inst., at 12 o'clock A.M.

For Freight or Passage, apply to
DOUGLAS LAPRAIK & Co.,
General Managers.

Hongkong, 19th December, 1908. [1089

Intimations.

CHURCH MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

NOTICE.

DURING the absence of the VEN. ARCHDEACON BANISTER from the Colony, the Rev. E. T. BARNETT, St. Stephen's College, will be Acting Secretary of the Church Missionary Society.

Hongkong, 18th December, 1908. [1087

THE IMPERIAL COLONIAL CLUB.

THE above Club is formed chiefly for COLONIAL and OVER-SEAS MEMBERS; it is situated at No. 84, Piccadilly (the centre of Clubland), opposite the Green Park.

The Club has a Bridge Section, Reception, Dining, Billiard Room, Smoking Lounge, Reading Room and Library.

Ladies are eligible as Members.

Entrance Fee, Five Guineas, Annual Subscription, Five Guineas.

Further particulars from
THE ORGANISING SECRETARY,
84, Piccadilly, W.

London, 19th August, 1908. [766

COLD STORAGE.

THE HONGKONG ICE COMPANY, LTD., have now 40,000 Cubic feet of COLD STORAGE available at EAST POINT. Stores will be Open at 10 A.M. and 4 P.M. daily, Sunday excepted, to receive and deliver perishable goods.

WM. PARLANE,
Manager.

Hongkong, 23rd June, 1908. [16

PEAK TRAMWAYS COMPANY, LIMITED.

TIME TABLE.

WEEK DAYS.

7.00 a.m.	
7.30 a.m. to 9.30 a.m.	...Every 10 minutes.
9.30 a.m. to 11.00 a.m.	...Every 15 minutes.
11.30 a.m. to 12.45 p.m.	...Every 15 minutes.
12.45 p.m. to 1.15 p.m.	...Every 10 minutes.
1.15 p.m. to 1.45 p.m.	...Every 15 minutes.
1.45 p.m. to 2.15 p.m.	...Every 10 minutes.
2.15 p.m. to 3.00 p.m.	...Every 15 minutes.
3.30 p.m. to 5.00 p.m.	...Every 15 minutes.
5.00 p.m. to 8.00 p.m.	...Every 10 minutes.

NIGHT CARS.

8.45 p.m. and 9 p.m., 9.45 p.m. to 11.15 p.m. every half hour.

SUNDAYS.

8.00 a.m. to 9.00 a.m.	...Every 15 minutes.
9.00 a.m. to 9.30 a.m.	...Every 30 minutes.
9.30 a.m. to 10.30 a.m.	...Every 15 minutes.
10.30 a.m. to 11.00 a.m.	...Every 10 minutes.
11.45 a.m. to 12.00 noon	...Every 15 minutes.
12.00 Noon to 1.00 p.m.	...Every 10 minutes.
1.00 p.m. to 5.00 p.m.	...Every 15 minutes.
5.00 p.m. to 6.00 p.m.	...Every 10 minutes.
6.00 p.m. to 7.00 p.m.	...Every 15 minutes.
7.00 p.m. to 8.00 p.m.	...Every 10 minutes.

NIGHT CARS as on Week Days.

SATURDAYS.

Extra cars at 3.15 p.m., 11.30 p.m. and 11.45 p.m.

SPECIAL CARS by Arrangement at the Company's Office, ALEXANDRA BUILDINGS, Des Vœux Road Central.

JOHN D. HUMPHREYS & SON,
General Managers.

Hongkong, 4th June, 1907. [19

To Let.

TO LET.

GODOWN No. 5A, DUDDELL STREET.

Apply to—
THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT & AGENCY CO., LD.

Hongkong, 1st December, 1908. [490

TO LET

ONE LARGE ROOM, with Spacious Verandah and Bath-Room attached, and use of Servants' Quarters, on CONDUIT ROAD LEVEL. Magnificent view of the Harbour and Mainland.

Apply—
SEPOL,
C/o Hongkong Telegraph.

Hongkong, 25th November, 1908. [1019

TO LET.

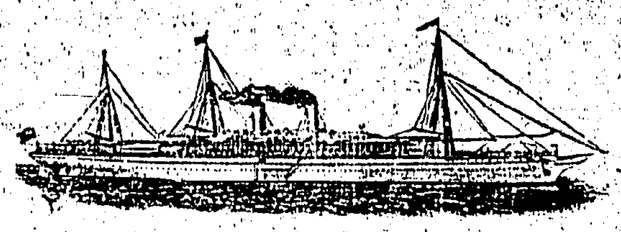
HATHERLEIGH, CONDUIT ROAD.
A HOUSE in WONG-NEI-CHONG ROAD.
A HOUSE in RIPON TERRACE.
OFFICES in YORK BUILDING.
GODOWNS in PRAYA EAST, BLUE BUILDINGS, and No. 16B, DES VŒUX ROAD next to the Hongkong Hotel.
FLATS in MORRISON TERRACE.
No. 16, DES VŒUX ROAD CENTRAL, 1st Floor.

Apply to—
THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT & AGENCY CO., LD.

Hongkong, 1st December, 1908. [1

Shipping—Steamers.

CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY COY.'S ROYAL MAIL STEAMSHIP LINE.



Luxury—Speed—Punctuality.

The only Line that Maintains a Regular Schedule Service of under 12 Days across the Pacific is the "Empress Line." Saving 5 to 10 Days' Ocean Travel.

12 Days YOKOHAMA TO VANCOUVER. 21 Days HONGKONG TO VANCOUVER.

PROPOSED SAILINGS. *(Subject to Alteration).*

R.M.S.	Tons	Leave Hongkong	Arrive Vancouver
"EMPRESS OF JAPAN"	6,000	SATURDAY, Jan. 16th	Feb. 5th, 1909.
"EMPRESS OF CHINA"	6,000	SATURDAY, Feb. 13th	March 5th
"MONTEAGLE"	6,163	TUESDAY, Mar. 2nd	Mar. 26th
"EMPRESS OF INDIA"	6,000	SATURDAY, Mar. 13th	April 2nd
"EMPRESS OF JAPAN"	6,000	SATURDAY, April 10th	April 30th
"EMPRESS OF CHINA"	6,000	SATURDAY, May 1st	May 21nd

"EMPRESS" steamships will leave Hongkong at 7 A.M.
S.S. "MONTEAGLE" at 12 Noon.

THE Quickest route to CANADA, UNITED STATES and EUROPE, calling at SHANGHAI, NAGASAKI, (through the INLAND SEA OF JAPAN), KOBE, YOKOHAMA, and VICTORIA, B.C., connecting at VANCOUVER with a Special Mail Express, and at QUEBEC, with the Company's New Palatial "EMPRESS" Steamships, 14,500 tons register, thus providing a comfortable and speedy through route to Europe.

Hongkong to London, 1st Class ..... *via* Canadian Atlantic Ports or New York £71.10.
Hongkong to London, Intermediate on Steamers, and 1st Class on Railways... " " £40. " " £42

First-class rates to London include cost of Meals and Berth in Sleeping Car while crossing the American Continent by Canadian Pacific direct line.

R.M.S. "MONTEAGLE" carries "Intermediate" Passengers only, at Intermediate rates, affording superior accommodation for that class.

Passengers Booked through to all points and AROUND THE WORLD.

SPECIAL THROUGH RATES (First class only) granted to Missionaries, Members of the Naval, Military, Diplomatic and Civil Services, and to European Officials in the Service of China and Japan Governments.

For further information, Maps, Routes, Hand Books, Rates of Freight and Passage, apply to D. W. CRADDOCK, General Traffic Agent for China, &c.,
15] *Corner Pedder Street and Praya, Opposite Blake Pier.*

INDO-CHINA STEAM NAVIGATION CO., LD.

(PROJECTED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG.—SUBJECT TO ALTERATION)

For	Steamship	On
SHANGHAI	*YATSHING*	MONDAY, 21st Dec., 4 P.M.
SHANGHAI	*KOONSHING*	MONDAY, 21st Dec., 4 P.M.
S'GAPORE, PENANG & CALCUTTA	*NAMSANG**	TUESDAY, 22nd Dec., 4 P.M.
SHANGHAI, TSINGTAU, WEI-HAIWEI, CHEFOO & CHING-WANTAO	*CHEONGSHING*	WED'DAY, 23rd Dec., Noon.
MANILA	*YUENSANG**	THURSDAY, 24th Dec., 4 P.M.
S'GAPORE, PENANG & CALCUTTA	*LAISANG*	SATURDAY, 26th Dec., Noon.
MANILA	*LOONGSANG**	FRIDAY, 31st Dec., 4 P.M.
SHANGHAI, YOKOHAMA, KOBE & MOJI	*FOOKSANG†**	MONDAY, 11th Jan., Noon.

RETURN TOURS TO JAPAN.
OCCUPYING 24 DAYS.

The steamers *Kutsang*, *Namsang* and *Fooksang* leave about every 3 weeks for Shanghai and Yokohama returning via Kobe (Inland Sea) and Moji to Hongkong, providing a stay of 5 to 6 days in Japan if passengers leave the steamer at Yokohama and rejoin at Kobe.

These vessels have all modern improvements and are fitted throughout with Electric Light A duly qualified surgeon is also carried.

* Steamers have superior accommodation for First-class Passengers, and are fitted throughout with Electric Light.

† Taking Cargo on through Bills of Lading to Yangtsze Ports, Chefoo, Tientsin & Newchwang.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

JARDINE MATHESON & CO., LD.,
General Managers.

Telephone No. 61.
Hongkong, 19th December, 1908. [10

CHINA NAVIGATION CO., LIMITED.

SAILINGS SUBJECT TO ALTERATION.

For	Steamers	To Sail	
NINGPO & SHANGHAI	"FOOCHOW"	20th Dec.,	Daylight.
HAIPHONG	"SINGAN"	21st "	Noon.
SHANGHAI	"CHENAN"	21st "	4 P.M.
MANILA	"TAMING"	22nd "	3 P.M.
AMOY & SHANGHAI	"KIUKIANG"	22nd "	4 P.M.
MANILA, ZAMBOANGA and USUAL AUSTRALIAN PORTS	"TAIYUAN"	22nd "	"
AMOY, MANILA, CEBU & ILOILO	"SUNGKIANG"	24th "	"
MANILA	"TEAN"	29th "	3 P.M.

MANILA and TIENTSIN STEAMERS have superior Passenger accommodation with Electric Light throughout and Electric Fans in the Staterooms and Dining Saloon.

AUSTRALIAN STEAMERS have superior accommodation with Electric Light throughout and Electric Fans in the Staterooms. A duly qualified Surgeon is carried. Cargo booked through for all Australian, New Zealand and Tasmanian Ports.

SHANGHAI STEAMERS have good Saloon Passenger accommodation and take cargo on through Bills of Lading to all Yangtsze and Northern China Ports.

Reduced Saloon Fares, Single and Return, to Manila and Australia.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,
AGENTS.

Telephone No. 36.
Hongkong, 19th December, 1908. [13

HONGKONG—MANILA.

Highest-Class, newest, fastest and most luxurious Steamers between Hongkong and Manila.—Saloon amidships—Electric Light—Perfect Cuisine—Surgeon and Stewardess carried.—All the most up-to-date arrangements for comfort of Passengers.

CHINA AND MANILA STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.

Steamship.	Tons.	Captain.	For	Sailing Dates.
RUBI	2540	Almond	MANILA	SATURDAY, 26th Dec., at Noon.
ZAFIRO	2540	R. Rodger	"	SATURDAY, 2nd Jan., at Noon.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

SHEWAN TOMES & CO.,
GENERAL MANAGERS.

Hongkong, 19th December, 1908 [2

Shipping—Steamers.

THE PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY.

STEAM
FOR
STRAITS, CEYLON, AUSTRALIA, INDIA, ADEN, EGYPT, MEDITERRANEAN PORTS, PLYMOUTH AND LONDON.
(Through Bills of Lading issued for BATAVIA PERSIAN GULF, CONTINENTAL, AMERICAN and SOUTH AFRICAN PORTS.)

THE Steamship
"DELTA,"
Captain B. W. H. Snow, carrying His Majesty's Mails, will be despatched from this for BOMBAY, &c., on SATURDAY, the 26th December, at Noon, taking Passengers and Cargo for the above Ports in connection with the Company's S.S. *Mongolia*, 9,500 tons, from Colombo, Passengers' accommodation in which vessel is secured before departure from Hongkong.

Silk and Valuables, all Cargo for France, and Tea for London (under arrangement) will be transhipped at Colombo into the Mail steamer proceeding direct to Marseilles and London, other Cargo for London, &c., will be conveyed via Bombay by the R.M.S. *Marmora*, due in London on 6th February, 1909.

Parcels will be received at this Office until 4 P.M. the day before sailing. The Contents and Value of all Packages are required.

For further Particulars, apply to
E. A. HEWETT,
Superintendent.
Hongkong, 12th December, 1908. [7

COMPAGNIE DES MESSAGERIES MARITIMES.

FOR SHANGHAI, KOBE AND YOKOHAMA.

THE Company's Steamship
"TONKIN,"
Captain Charbonnel, will be despatched for the above Ports on or about MONDAY, the 21st instant.

For Freight or Passage, apply to
P. NALIN,
Acting Agent.
Hongkong, 15th December, 1908. [14

UNITED STATES AND CHINA-JAPAN STEAMSHIP LINE.

FOR NEW YORK AND BOSTON VIA SUEZ CANAL.
With liberty to call at Malabar Coast.

THE Steamship
"INDRAWADI,"
Captain Williams, will be despatched as above on TUESDAY, 5th January.

For Freight, apply to
JARDINE, MATHESON & Co., LD.,
Agents (Indra Line, Ltd.).
Hongkong, 12th December, 1908. [1072

THE BANK LINE LIMITED.

Connecting at Tacoma with
NORTHERN PACIFIC RAILWAY COMPANY.
Taking Cargo on through Bills of Lading to all Overland Common Points in the United States of America and Canada, and also for the principal ports in Mexico, and Central and South America.

PROPOSED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG
FOR
VICTORIA, B.C., SEATTLE & TACOMA
VIA
MOJI, KOBE AND YOKOHAMA.

Steamer	Tons.	Captain.	To Sail
Inverlyle	4,789	Boyd	Jan. 14
Bowerie	4,445	Mathie	Feb. 11
Suwarrie	6,232	Shorton	Mar. 11

These steamers are specially fitted for the carriage of Asiatic Steerage passengers.

PARCEL EXPRESS TO THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

For further Information apply to
DODWELL & CO., LIMITED.
General Agents.
Queen's Buildings.
Hongkong, 7th December, 1908. [1070

STEAM TO CANTON.

THE New Twin Screw Steel Steamers
"KWONG TUNG"...Capt. H. W. WALKER.
"KWONG SAI" .....Capt. E. S. CROWE.

Leave Hongkong for Canton at 9 every evening, (Saturday excepted).

Leave Canton for Hongkong at 5.30 every evening, (Sunday excepted).

These Fine New Steamers have unexcelled Accommodation for First Class Passengers and are lit throughout by Electricity. Electric Fans in First Class Cabins.

Passage Fare—Single Journey.....$4.
Meals .....$1.25 each

The Company's Wharf is situated in front of the New Western Market, opposite the old Harbour Office.

YUEN ON S.S. CO., LD.,
and
SHIU ON S.S. CO., LD.,
No. 2, Queen's Road West.
Hongkong, 3rd June, 1907. [11

Shipping—Steamers.

DOUGLAS STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR SWATOW.

THE Company's Steamship
"HAIMUN,"
Captain Evans, will be despatched for the above Port, TO-MORROW, the 20th inst., at 10 o'clock A.M.

For Freight or Passage, apply to
DOUGLAS LAPRAIK & Co.,
General Managers.
Hongkong, 19th December, 1908. [1086

REGULAR STEAMSHIP SERVICE TO NEW YORK,

VIA PORTS AND SUEZ CANAL.
(With Liberty to Call at Malabar Coast.)

PROPOSED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG.

FOR NEW YORK:
S.S. "LENNOX".....22nd Dec.
FOR NEW YORK Only:
S.S. "SIKH".....26th Dec.
FOR BOSTON & NEW YORK:
S.S. "MUNCASTER CASTLE"...19th Jan.

For Freight and further Information, apply to
DODWELL & Co., LIMITED,
Agents.
Hongkong, 19th December, 1908. [1041

FOR SHANGHAI, YOKOHAMA, KOBE AND MOJI.

THE Steamship
"ARRATOON APCAR,"
Capt. A. Stewart, will be despatched for the above Ports on MONDAY, the 28th Dec., at Noon.

This Steamer has Superior Accommodation for Passengers, and is installed throughout with Electric Light and carries a duly certified Doctor.

For Freight or Passage, apply to
DAVID SASSOON & Co., LIMITED,
Agents.
Hongkong, 18th December, 1908 [1088

Intimations.

THERAPION MAY NOW ALSO BE OBTAINED IN DRAGEE (TASTELESS) FORM.

A WONDERFUL DISCOVERY.

This is the age of research and experiment, when all nature, so to speak, is ransacked by the scientific for the comfort and happiness of man. Science has indeed made giant strides during the present century, and among these—by no means least important—discoveries in medicine comes that of

THERAPION.

This preparation is unquestionably one of the most genuine and reliable Patent Medicines ever introduced, and has, we understand, been used in the Continental Hospitals by Ricord, Rostan, Jobert, Velpeau, Malgaigne, the well-known Chassaignac, and indeed by all who are regarded as authorities in such matters, including the celebrated Lallemand, and Roux, by whom it was some time since uniformly adopted, and that it is worthy the attention of those who require such a remedy we think there is no doubt. From the time of Aristotle downwards, arguments against the removal of these diseases has (like the famed philosopher's stone) been the object of search of some hopeful, generous minds; and far beyond the most powerful such could ever have been discovered—of transmuting the baser metals into gold is surely the discovery of a remedy so potent as to replenish the failing energies of the confirmed *roué* in the one case, and in the other so effectually, speedily and safely to expel from the system without the aid, or even the knowledge, of a second party, the poisons of acquired or inherited disease in all their protean forms as to leave no taint or trace behind. Such is

THE NEW FRENCH REMEDY.

THERAPION

which may certainly rank with, if not take precedence of, many of the discoveries of our day, about which so little ostentation and noise have been made, and the extensive and ever-increasing demand that has been created for this medicine wherever introduced appears to prove that it is destined to cast into oblivion all those questionable remedies that were formerly the sole reliance of mankind. Therapion may be obtained of the principal chemists and merchants throughout the world.—*Diamond Fields Advertiser*, Kimberley.

D. NOMA,

PROFESSIONAL TATTOOER
AND
THE EXPERT REMOVER OF TATTOO MARKS,
No. 60 QUEEN'S ROAD, CENTRAL.

PATRONISED by Prince of Wales, then H. R. H. The Duke of York, and H. R. H. The Emperor of Russia, and having 4,500 testimonials from all sources.

My 34 years' experience in tattooing is a guarantee of good work and prompt execution. My colours are absolutely fast and perfectly harmless, and produce a charming effect not attained by any other, as their composition is only known to me. In tattooing unlike some species of engravings, care must be taken to have the work done in a perfect, high toned manner. In order to take special precaution against possible dangers, I use fresh materials daily.

The copying of Portraits with distinct minuteness a speciality.

Hongkong, 1st September, 1908. [804

Benger's Food is mixed with fresh new milk when used, is dainty and delicious, highly nutritive, and most easily digested. Infants thrive on it, and delicate or aged persons enjoy it.

Benger's Food is sold in tins, by all Chemists, etc., everywhere.

BENGER'S FOOD

[791—E

CINEMATOGRAPH PICTURES.

HOW THEY ARE OBTAINED.

SHOCKING CRUELTY.

Atrocious cruelty has been proved against managers of a cinematograph show who arrange thrilling scenes, to be afterwards unfolded before a harrowed audience. The spectacle chosen in this case was the fall of a runaway horse drawing a carriage over a precipice. The scene was actually performed while a photographer took it. The managers first started proceedings at a small Brittany village, Graix. They had hauled an unfortunate horse up to the cliff and were lashing it into running away when the peasants, revolted at the sight, turned upon the whole party and hounded them out of the village. Unluckily they did not capture the helpless horse, and the cinematograph fiends took the animal off with them and resumed their inhuman operations a few miles away along the coast, at Ploemeur. There, unfortunately, they were undisturbed. The horse, beaten into a state of wild terror, dashed away up the cliff of Conregan and over the edge. The wretched animal fell, dragging the carriage with it, down a height of a hundred feet on to rocks, and by a mercy was instantly killed. The vehicle was smashed to splinters. A man with a cinematograph camera stood calmly by and took the whole scene. When the horrible performance was over gendarmes, a trifle late, turned up. The result was a prosecution at Lorient, which was delayed for months, the cinematograph managers having gone to Africa in search of more thrilling sights in the Morocco campaign, so these, at any rate, they had not themselves engineered.

The case against them has now at last been heard. The Lorient police magistrate did his best to punish the perpetrators of the cruelty, but the utmost he could do was but little. Letting off the photographer as having played no part in the horrible scene, of which he merely took the pictures, he censured the cinematograph managers in the severest terms, and indicted a fine of 12s. This is the maximum penalty provided under the law, for the prevention of cruelty to animals called the Grammont law. No wonder horses have had a time of it in Paris, as well as in Lorient.

LION SCARE IN NYASALAND.

A new terror has befallen some of the districts of Nyassaland, the British colony lying along the western shore of Lake Nyasa. In this region game has never been plentiful, and the supply has been still further depleted by excessive hunting in the last few years. The result is that the natural food of lions is becoming scarce and they have been driven by hunger to prey upon the natives.

Fortunately lions are not so numerous there as they are in British East Africa. But the natives are in terror, owing to the fact that the animals now look upon them as an excellent source of food supply. The evil at present is greatest in the district which lies between the government stations of Ngara and Dowa in the high country west of Lake Nyasa.

In this locality during the last year the lions have become a scourge. The natives have surrounded all their villages with stockades at least fifteen feet high, the tops of which are thickly woven with thorns.

These precau ions seem to afford no security. Lions have repeatedly climbed over the stockades, broken into the huts usually by tearing away the roof thatch and carried off natives. Even those not attacked are usually too terror-stricken to offer resistance.

A party of whites travelling through this region in May last observed many small villages deserted by their inhabitants, although the huts were still quite new. On asking the reason, the answer was invariably the same:

"The people could no longer remain. The lions have become so bad that we are all afraid we will be killed."

At one village three women had been killed and eaten by these animals; at another a man and two girls, and so on.

The lions that are committing these ravages are believed to have been driven to prey upon human beings only by hunger, for man-eating lions have not often terrorized this region. Most lions are not the ferocious beasts they have been thought to be.

They run off into the jungle at the sight of a human being and never attack a man unless wounded or hunted. But with the man-eating lion it is different.

He lies in hiding all day, and at night fires, guns and noise will not keep him off. He springs into a group of natives and carries one off before the others have time to make resistance.

He enters tents without fear, clawing away the fastenings. When the man-eaters attacked the labourers on the Uganda railroad, everybody built platforms and slept on them at least twenty feet from the ground.

All that is necessary to turn an ordinary lion into one of the man-eating sort is for him to acquire a taste for human flesh. He may first feed on the remains of a human body that a man-eater has left and as soon as he learns that the human kind is easy to kill he is likely to attack men, women or children in preference to any of the game that has been his food. Then he becomes a man-eater, a terrible evil.

This is the gravest feature in the present situation in Nyassaland. The lions are being turned into man-eaters. Of course this state of affairs has incited the colonial authorities to make every effort to destroy the lions.—*New York Sun.*

WEATHER-FORECAST AND STORM-WARNINGS ISSUED FROM THE HONGKONG OBSERVATORY.

METEOROLOGICAL SIGNALS.

Meteorological signals are hoisted on the mast in front of the Water Police Station at Tsim Sha Tsui for the information of masters of vessels leaving the port. They do not necessarily imply that bad weather is expected here:—

Signal No.		
1.	A CONE point upwards	indicates a Typhoon to the North of the Colony.
2.	A CONE point upwards and a DRUM below	indicates a Typhoon to the North-East of the Colony.
3.	A DRUM	indicates a Typhoon to the East of the Colony.
4.	A CONE point downwards and DRUM below	indicates a Typhoon to the South-East of the Colony.
5.	A CONE point downwards	indicates a Typhoon to the South of the Colony.
6.	A CONE point downwards and BALL below	indicates a Typhoon to the South-West of the Colony.
7.	A BALL	indicates a Typhoon to the West of the Colony.
8.	A CONE point upwards and BALL below	indicates a Typhoon to the North-West of the Colony.

Red Signals indicate that the centre is believed to be more than 300 miles away from the Colony.

Black Signal indicate that the centre is believed to be less than 300 miles away from the Colony.

The above signals will, as heretofore, be hoisted only when typhoons exist in such positions or are moving in such directions that information regarding them is considered to be of importance to the Colony or to shipping leaving the harbour.

These signals are repeated at the Harbour Office, H.M.S. *Tamar*, Green Island Signal Mast, and the Flagstaff on the premises of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company at Kowloon.

URGENT SIGNAL.

In addition to the above, when it is expected that the wind may increase to full typhoon force at any moment, the following Urgent Signal will be made at the Water Police Station, and repeated at the Harbour Office:—

THREE EXPLOSIVE BOMBS, AT INTERVALS OF TEN SECONDS.

A Black Cross will be hoisted at the same time, superior to the other shapes.

NIGHT SIGNALS.

The following Night Signals will be exhibited from the Flagstaff on the roof of the Water Police Station at Kowloon, the Harbour Office Flagstaff, and H.M.S. *Tamar*.

I. Three Lights Vertical, Green Green Green, indicates that a typhoon is believed to be situated more than 300 miles from the Colony.

II. Three Lights Vertical, Green Red Green, indicates that a typhoon is believed to be situated less than 300 miles from the Colony.

III. Three Lights Vertical, Red Green Red, indicates that the wind may be expected to increase to full typhoon force at any moment.

No. III. Signal will be accompanied by the Explosive Bombs, as above, in the event of the information conveyed by this signal being first published by night.

These Night Signals will be substituted for the Day Signals at sunset, and will, when necessary, be altered during the night.

SUPPLEMENTARY WARNINGS.

For the benefit of Native Craft and passing Ocean Vessels, a Cone will be exhibited at each of the following stations during the time that any of the above Day Signals are hoisted in the Harbour.

Gap Rock.	Aberdeen.
Waglan.	Sau-Ki Wan.
Stanley.	Sai Kung.
Cape Collinson.	Sha Tau Kok.
	Tai Po.

This will indicate that there is a depression somewhere in the China Sea, and that a Storm Warning is hoisted in the Harbour.

Further details can always be given to Ocean Vessels, on demand, by signal, from the light-houses.

F. C. FIGG,
Director.

16th [illegible] 1907.

WAR ON RATS.

NEW INDUSTRY FOR UNEMPLOYED.

A new industry appears to be possible. It is, many people may be surprised to learn, in connection with the extermination of rats.

The Incorporated Society for the Destruction of Vermin has just issued an advertisement inviting tenders for the supply of English brown rat-skins in lots of from 100 to 10,000. Coincident with this Earl Carrington was asked to take steps to appoint a Rat Commission, and from what a "Westminster" representative learns there appears to be scope for much useful work.

A member of the executive of the society stated that the rat-skins were intended for a new industrial process. "But," he added, "I am not at liberty at present to tell you exactly what that process is. I may, however, say this—in one particular business, which I must not specify, a large quantity of other skins are used. These cost on an average 2s. 6d. each to prepare, while a rat-skin can be prepared for 9d. In cheapening production we shall increase the output, and the bigger demand will be sure to add very considerably to employment.

"I know one firm," the gentleman continued, "who spend from £30 to £40 per year to have rats destroyed, while they pay about £50 a year for rat skins, that come from Germany."

A sum of close upon £50,000 is spent yearly in London in purchasing rat-skins from France, Belgium, and Germany, and the society urges that this money could be easily earned at home, in the great towns and cities where the rats abound.

"As much as 3s. and 3s. 6d. a day was earned in Denmark, by the unemployed when the Rat Act for that country was passed last year, and in one case an out-of-work painter earned 35s. a week at it."

Rat-skins can be used for book-bindings and photograph-frames, in addition to which it is well known that an enormous number are used in the manufacture of the thumbs of ladies' gloves.

Shipping.

Arrivals.

Signal, Ger. s.s., 982, G. Schlaikier, 18th Dec.,—Singapore 9th Dec., and Hoihow 17th, Gen.—J. & Co.

Phrasang, Ger. s.s., 1,021, Fr. von Mangelsdorff, 18th Dec.,—Bangkok and Swatow 17th Dec., Rice and Gen.—B. & S.

Hanyang, Br. s.s., 1,207, Trowbridge, 19th Dec.,—Chinkiang and Shanghai 15th Dec., Gen.—B. & S.

Chenan, Br. s.s., 1,340, Wavell, 19th Dec.,—Canton 18th Dec., Gen.—B. & S.

Kweilin, Br. s.s., 1,200, Brown, 19th Dec.,—Canton 18th Dec., Gen.—B. & S.

Quarta, Ger. s.s., 1,146, H. Madsen, 19th Dec.,—Canton 18th Dec., Gen.—S., W. & Co.

Leopard, Aust. cruiser, 1,600, Mevern-Hohenberg Gottfried, 19th Dec.,—Shanghai 16th Dec.

Taki Maru, Jap. s.s., 3,432, T. Matsushima, 19th Dec.,—Moji 13th Dec., Coal.—A., K. & Co.

Calchas, Br. s.s., 4,278, O. P. Williams, 19th Dec.,—Shanghai 16th Dec., Gen.—B. & S.

Shoshu Maru, Jap. s.s., 999, I. Ijichi, 19th Dec.,—Anping 16th Dec., and Swatow 18th, Gen.—O. S. K.

Clearances at the Harbour Office.

Foochow, for Canton.
Wosang, for Shanghai.
Hanyang, for Canton.
Signal, for Haiphong.
Daijin Maru, for Amoy.
Joshin Maru, for Swatow.
Hinsang, for Hongay.
Haimun, for Swatow.
Manchuria, for Shanghai.
Calchas, for Singapore.
Claverdon, for Dairy.

Departures.

Dec. 19.

Manchuria, for San Francisco.
Empress of India, for Vancouver.
Shantung, for Swatow.
Kaifong, for Cebu.
Prominent, for Swatow.
Oriel, for Moji.
Hsinchi, for Canton.
Rio Lima, Portuguese gunboat, for Macao.
Zafiro, for Manila.
Nanchang, for Shanghai.
Choysang, for Shanghai.
Wosang, for Shanghai.
Kaifong, for Iloilo.

Passengers arrived.

Per *Hanyang*, from Shanghai—Mr. Scott.

Per *Signal*, from Singapore, &c.—380 Chinese.

Passengers departed.

Per *Derfflinger*, for Shanghai—Messrs. W. Carter, Morris, Joh Schulk, T. P. Thomson, W. Weddertorn, Director Suter, Sir Alexander Hosie, Capt. Wollseifen, Mr. and Mrs. A. R. Hassan, and Miss C. Pereira. For Nagasaki—Mr. K. Kawano and party. For Kobe—Messrs. Li Yew Lau and Kwo Chee. For Yokohama—Mrs. Wollseifen, Messrs. F. H. Hohnke, T. C. Mao, Chu Yuen and F. Che San.

Per *Empress of India*, for Shanghai, &c.—Messrs. A. MacKenzie, C. E. Anton, Miss Stirling, Mrs. Ryan, Messrs. Herman Briggs, Chas. Rayner, Wroe, Mr. and Mrs. W. Haney Brown, and Mr. W. B. Smith.

Per *Manchuria*, for Shanghai, &c.—Mr. and Mrs. A. Kendall Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Fitzgerald, Mrs. J. C. Dornin, Mrs. G. W. Fenwick, Mr. and Mrs. G. E. Strong, Rev. and Mrs. W. E. Nicoll and family, Messrs. W. S. Cushing, Gam, Capt. and Mrs. Kley, Messrs. F. J. Pillatt, C. Hourigan, O. Y. Woodward, H. S Honigsberg, B S. Sathna, F. H. Sathna, T. K. Hin, Dr. H. Peck, Messrs. E. Bolden and G. F. Lindenfeld.

VESSELS IN PORT.

STEAMERS.

Binh Thuan, Fr. s.s., 984, Ribault, 4th Dec.,—Manila 29th Nov., Ballast.—Basa & Co.

Borneo, Ger. s.s., 1,344, F. Sembill, 18th Dec.,—Sandakan 12th Dec., Timber and Gen.—M. & Co.

Choising, Ger. s.s., 1,022, J. Bruhn, 16th Dec.,—Bangkok 10th Dec., Rice.—B. & S.

Chunsang, Br. s.s., 2,418, W. E. Sawer, 16th Dec.,—Pasuruan, (Java) 7th Dec., Sugar.—J., M. & Co.

Claverdon, Br. s.s., 2,085 Putt, 10th Dec.,—Cardiff 14th Oct., Coal and Patent Fuel—D. & Co., Ld.

Daijin Maru, Jap. s.s., 000, I. Sakurai, 12th Dec.,—Swatow 11th Dec, Gen.—O. S. K.

Derwent, Br. s.s., 1,567, J. Jenkins, 17th Dec.,—Saigon 12th Dec., Gen.—Man Fat & Co.

Foochow, Br. s.s., 1,219, Vincent, 18th Dec.,—Canton 17th Dec., Gen.—B. & S.

Fri, Nor. s.s., 880, C. Wagle, 17th Nov.,—Manila 13th Nov., Ballast.—Aagaard, Thoresen & Co.

Fukura Maru, Jap. s.s., 1,046, S. Kumawaki, 17th Dec.,—from Moji, Coal.—M. B. G. K.

Gryfevale, Br. s.s., 2,846, F. Steel, 17th Dec.,—Newcastle 20th Nov., and Port Kembla 25th, Coal.—M. M.

Haimun, Br. s.s., 636, J. W. Evans, 18th Dec.,—Swatow 17th Dec., Gen.—D., L. & Co.

Heliopolis, Br. s.s., 2,967, Wiseman, 15th Dec.,—Chin-wang-tao 10th Dec., Ballast.—G., L. & Co.

Hilary, Ger. s.s., 1,276, Hatje, 4th Dec.,—Pulo Laut 2nd Nov., Coal.—S., W. & Co.

Hinsang, Br. s.s., 1,536, A. Smith, 28th Nov.,—Samarang 16th Nov., Sugar.—J., M. & Co.

Hongkong Maru, Jap. s.s., 3,453, H. S. Smith, 16th Dec.,—San Francisco 17th Nov., and Shanghai 13th Dec., Mails and Gen.—T. K. K.

Joshin Maru, Jap. s.s., 702, Y. Kaburaki, 16th Dec.,—Swatow 12th Dec., Gen.—O. S. K.

Kiang Ping, Chi. s.s., 1,002, H. Udden, 14th Dec.,—Chinkiang 9th Dec., Gen.—Tung Lee & Co.

Kiukiang, Br. s.s., 1,228, Robertson, 17th Dec.,—Canton 16th Dec., Gen.—B. & S.

Knivsberg, Ger. s.s., 646, Henk, 18th Dec.,—Haiphong and Hoihow 16th Dec., Rice.—J. & Co.

Kohsichang, Ger. s.s., 1,292, C. Rosiefsky, 5th Dec.,—Bangkok 19th Nov., Rice and Timber.—B. & S.

Laisang, Br. s.s., 2,224, F. Wheeler, 15th Dec.,—Calcutta via Penang and Singapore 8th Dec., Gen.—J., M. & Co.

Lennox, Br. s.s., 2,361, F. McNair, 16th Nov.,—Shanghai 13th Nov., Gen.—C. P. R. Co.

Nam Sang, Br. s.s., 2,591, P. M. B. Lake, 15th Dec.,—Moji 11th Dec., Gen.—J., M. & Co.

Nicomedia, Ger. s.s., 4,363, P. Wagemann, 11th Dec.,—Portland, Or. 6th Nov., Gen.—P. & A. S. S. Co.

Prinz Waldemar, Ger. s.s., 1,737, W. von Senden, 11th Dec.,—Sydney 17th Nov., Gen.—M. & Co.

Samsen, Ger. s.s., 998, F. Schmetz, 13th Dec.,—Bangkok and Swatow 12th Dec., Rice.—B. & S.

Shibetoro Maru, Jap. s.s., Asumi, 18th Dec.,—Tairin, (Manchuria) 11th Dec., Coal.—O. S. K.

Singan, Br. s.s., 1,097, F. Jamieson, 17th Dec.,—Haiphong and Hoihow 15th Dec., Gen.—B. & S.

Taishun, Ch. s.s., 1,216, Klopper, 18th Dec.,—Canton 17th Dec., Gen.—C. M. S. N. Co.

Taiyuan, Br. s.s., 1,459, L. Dawson, 17th Dec.,—Melbourne via Sydney and Queensland Ports 13th Nov., Gen.—B. & S.

Takasaki Maru, Jap. s.s., 3,000, A. Mocker, 28th Nov.,—from Bombay and Singapore, Gen.—N. Y. K.

Taming, Br. s.s., 1,350, A. Somerville, 18th Dec.,—Manila 15th Dec., Gen.—B. & S.

Telemachus, Br. s.s., 1,340, J. Williamson, 1 th Dec.,—Saigon 4th Dec., Gen.—Wo Fat Sing.

Theseus, Br. s.s., 2,496, J. Barwise, 11th Dec.,—Birkenhead via Singapore 6th Dec., Gen.—B. & S.

Tosa Maru, Jap. s.s., 3,610, T. L. Harrison, 13th Dec.,—Seattle 10th Nov., and Shanghai 10th Dec., Lumber, Cotton-Yarn, Onions and Gen.—N. Y. K.

SAILING VESSELS.

Annie E. Smale, Am. 4-masted schr., 809, J. F. Colstrup, 13th Dec.,—Portland, Or. 8th Oct., Lumber.—Mr. Jack.

Daylight, Br. ship, 3,060, McBryde, 9th Oct.,—Yokohama 19th Sept., Ballast.—S. O. Co.

Lyndhurst, Br. bark, Parnell, 14th Sept.,—Bangkok 25th Aug., Case Oil.—S. O. Co.

Tarang, Br schooner, 87, Oliver, 7th Dec.,—Palau Island 15th Nov., Iron.—Mr. G. P. Lammert.

Steamers Expected.

Vessels	From	Agents	Due
Yetorofu Maru	Singapore	N. Y. K.	Dec. 20
Sunda	Singapore	P. & O. Co.	Dec. 21
Kumano Maru	Manila	N. Y. K.	Dec. 21
Wakasa Maru	Shanghai	N. Y. K.	Dec. 21
Tonkin	Saigon	M. M.	Dec. 22
Arratoon Apcar	Singapore	D. S. & Co	Dec. 23
Carnarvonshire	Singapore	S., T. & Co	Dec. 23
Sanuki Maru	Singapore	N. Y. K.	Dec. 23
Asia	Japan	O. & O. Co	Dec. 24
Minnesota	Japan	N. Y. K.	Dec. 25
Shinano Maru	Japan	N. Y. K.	Dec. 27
Nikko Maru	Nagasaki	N. Y. K.	Dec. 27
Hirano Maru	Japan	N. Y. K.	Dec. 28
Tjipinas	Shanghai	J. C. J. L.	Dec. 28
Emp of Japan	Vancouver	C. P. R. Co	Dec. 31
P. Sigismund	Sydney	M. & Co	Jan. 6

DOCK RETURNS.

HONGKONG AND WHAMPOA DOCKS.

Hilary	at	Kowloon Dock	
H.M.S. Virago	"	"	"
Hinsang	"	"	"
H.M.S. Alacrity	"	"	"
Prinz Waldemar	"	"	"
Daijin Maru	"	Cosmopolitan	"
Namsang	"	"	"
Samsen	"	Aberdeen	"

Ships Passed The Canal.

10th November—*Benledi, Bulow Glenavon, Soyo Maru.* 13th November—*Ernest Simons, Menelaus, Telemachus, Inaba Maru, Kowachi Maru, Lituania.* 17th November—*Brasilia, Oanfa, Zieten, Theseus.* 20th November—*Achilles, Caledonien, Carnarvonshire.* 24th November—*Derfflinger, Benvorlich, Sumatra, Sunda, Shimosa.* 27th November—*Suruga, Hitachi Maru, Alcinous, Peleus, Ping Suey, Sanuki Maru, Silesia,* (Ger.) *Yunnan, Bouvric, Scandia, Jumna.* 1st December—*Tranquebar, Soudan, Sumatra, Tonkin.* 4th December—*Bellerophon, Monmouthshire, Polynesien, Ellen Richmers, Hyson, Nyanza, Silesia,* (Aus.) 8th December—*Bintarig, Glenlochy, Indrani, Prinz Eitel Friedrich.* 11th December—*Suevia, Kleist, Doucalion, Sydney, Kamakura Maru, Liberia.* 15th December—*Andalusia, Perseus, Montgomeryshire, Awa Maru.* 18th December—*Ganges, Idomeneus, Pekin, Glenafton, Tourane.*

Arrivals at Home—10th November—*Flintshire, Cathay.* 13th November—*Colombo Maru.* 16th November—*Banca.* 17th November—*Mayhona, Prometheus,* 19th November—*Nord.* 20th November—*Ambria, Inaba Maru.* 27th November—*Caledonien, Indramayo, Vandalia.* 1st December—*Vorwaerts, Zieten.* 4th December—*Achilles, Alcinous, Oanfa.* 8th December—*Brasilia, Ping Suey, Hitachi Maru.* 11th December—*Tranquebar, Bellerophon, Polynesien, Princess Alice, Yunnan.* 15th December—*Hyson, Silesia,* (Ger.) 18th December—*Liberia, Kleist.*

Post Office.

The Public are informed that the next outgoing Parcel mail to Europe will be closed in this office on Christmas Eve, Thursday, the 24th of December, at 5 p.m.

In accordance with an instruction received from the American Postal Authorities the present the weight limit on parcels to America by the direct route has been altered from 11 lbs. to its old limit 4 lbs. 6 ozs.

Approximate times of closing mails at Shanghai via Daisy and Siberia:—

25th December, at 10.00 A.M.
31st December, at 8.30 P.M.
8th January, at 10.00 A.M.

A Mail will close for:—

Swatow—Per *Haimun*, 20th Dec., 9 A.M.
Singapore—Per *Calchas*, 20th Dec., 9 A.M.
Hongay—Per *Hinsang*, 20th Dec., 9 A.M.
Haiphong—Per *Singan*, 21st Dec., 11 A.M.
Macao—Per *Sui Tai*, 21st Dec., 1.15 P.M.
Shanghai—Per *Chenan*, 21st Dec., 3 P.M.
Shanghai—Per *Koonshing*, 21st Dec., 3 P.M.
Shanghai—Per *Yatshing*, 21st Dec., 3 P.M.
Tsingtau, Nagasaki and Vladivostock—Per *Asconia* 21st Dec., 4 P.M.
Samarang, Sourabaya and Batavia—Per *Quarta*, 21st Dec., 5 P.M.
Shanghai, Moji, Kobe, Yokkaichi, Yokohama, Victoria and Seattle—Per *Tosa Maru*, 22nd Dec., 10 A.M.
Swatow, Amoy and Foochow—Per *Hatching*, 22nd Dec., 10 A.M.
Moji, Kobe, Yokohama and Portland, Or.—Per *Nicomedia*, 22nd Dec., 10 A.M.
Singapore—Per *Lennox*, 22nd Dec, 10 A.M.
Europe, &c., India, *via* Tuticorin—P. *Dumbea*, 22nd Dec., 11 A.M.
Macao—Per *Sui Tai*, 22nd Dec., 1.15 P.M.
Manila—Per *Taming*, 22nd Dec., 2 P.M.
Singapore, Penang and Calcutta—Per *Namsang*, 22nd Dec., 3 P.M.
Manila, Zamboanga, Port Darwin, Thursday Island, Cooktown, Cairns, Townsville, Brisbane, Sydney, Hobart, Launceston, New Zealand, Melbourne, Adelaide, Perth and Fremantle—Per *Taiyuan*, 22nd Dec., 3 P.M.
Amoy and Shanghai—Per *Kiukiang*, 22nd Dec., 3 P.M.
Singapore, Penang and Colombo—Per *Wakasa Maru*, 22nd Dec., 5 P.M.
Nagasaki, Kobe and Yokohama—Per *Kamano Maru*, 23rd Dec., 11 A.M.
Swatow, Taingtau, Weihaiwei, Chefoo and Ching-wan-tao—Per *Cheongshing*, 23rd Dec., 11 A.M.
Macao—Per *Sui Tai*, 23rd Dec., 1.15 P.M.
Durban—Per *Heliopolis*, 24th Dec., 10 A.M.
Manila, Thursday Island, Cooktown, Cairns, Townsville, Brisbane, Sydney, Hobart, Launceston, New Zealand, Melbourne, Adelaide, Perth and Fremantle—Per *Nikko Maru*, 24th Dec., 11 A.M.
Macao—Per *Sui Tai*, 24th Dec., 1.15 P.M.
Manila—Per *Yuensang*, 24th Dec., 3 P.M.
Amoy, Manila, Cebu and Iloilo—Per *Sungkiang*, 24th Dec., 3 P.M.
Swatow, Amoy and Foochow—Per *Hatyang*, 25th Dec., 9 A.M.
Macao—Per *Sui Tai*, 25th Dec., 1.15 P.M.
Shanghai, Nagasaki, Kobe, Yokohama, Honolulu and San Francisco—Per *Chiyo Maru*, 26th Dec., 10 A.M.

CHINA COAST METEOROLOGICAL REGISTER.

December 18th, 1908, a.m.

		Bar.	Th.	Hu.	Wind		Wr.
Vladivostock	7 a.m.	30.10	1	33	N	0	b
Nemuro	6 a.m.	29.30	—	—	S	8	—
Hakodate		29.62	—	—	NW	10	—
Tokio		29.63	—	—	—	0	—
Kochi		29.95	—	—	N	4	—
Nagasaki		30.19	—	—	NW	6	—
Kagoshima		30.15	—	—	NW	4	—
Oshima		30.16	—	—	N	8	—
Naha		30.17	—	—	N	4	—
Ishigakijima		30.09	—	—	NE	2	—
Bonin Is.		30.08	—	—	S	6	—
Chefoo	6 a.m.	30.49	22	100	SW	2	b
Weihaiwei	9 a.m.	30.47	24	—	W	2	b
Hankow	6 a.m.	30.63	39	82	N	2	o
Kinkiang	"	30.54	42	83	NE	5	o
Shanghai	9 a.m.	30.54	37	71	NW	3	o
Gutzlaff	"	30.42	44	68	NNW	6	or
Sharp Peak	"	30.34	58	70	NNE	6	or
Amoy	6 a.m.	30.15	62	89	NE	5	or
Swatow	"	30.09	63	94	NE	5	or
Taihoku	5 a.m.	30.22	—	—	E	6	—
Taichu	"	30.10	—	—	N	4	—
Tainan	"	30.08	—	—	N	4	—
Koshun	"	30.07	—	—	E	4	—
Pescadores	"	—	—	—	—	—	—
Canton	9 a.m.	30.24	56	81	—	0	or
Hongkong	10 a.m.	30.16	65	84	NE	1	od
Victoria Peak	"	—	—	—	N	2	—
Gap Rock	"	30.18	—	—	N	6	—
Macao	"	30.25	56	—	N	3	od
Wuchow	9 a.m.	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hoihow	"	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pakhoi	"	—	—	—	—	—	—
Phullen	8 a.m.	30.20	54	—	NE	3	or
Tourane	"	30.05	32	—	NW	1	or
C. St. James	"	29.90	79	—	ENE	6	c
Aparri	6 a.m.	30.02	—	—	SE	1	c
Manila	10 a.m.	30.00	82	70	ESE	2	b
Legaspi	6 a.m.	29.95	79	—	NE	1	c
Bacolod	9 a.m.	—	—	—	ENE	1	c
Iloilo	"	29.87	80	—	NE	1	c
Cebu	"	29.93	80	—	N	1	c
Labuan	"	29.85	81	—	—	—	—

December 19th, 1908, a.m.

		Bar.	Th.	Hu.	Wind		Wr.
Vladivostock	7 a.m.	30.08	2	49	—	0	b
Nemuro	6 a.m.	29.53	—	—	SW	2	—
Hakodate	"	29 93	—	—	W	8	—
Tokio	"	30.10	—	—	NW	4	—
Kochi	"	30.19	—	—	NW	2	—
Nagasaki	"	30.27	—	—	N	0	—
Kagoshima	"	29.25	—	—	N	4	—
Oshima	"	30.24	—	—	N	6	—
Naha	"	30 21	—	—	NE	4	—
Ishigakijima	"	30.17	—	—	NE	6	—
Bonin Is.	"	30.12	—	—	W	2	—
Chefoo	6 a.m.	30.37	31	90	SW	2	b
Weihaiwei	9 a.m.	30.40	32	—	WNW	2	ovr
Hankow	6 a.m.	30.45	40	65	N	1	b
Kinkiang	"	30 46	39	82	NNE	2	b
Shanghai	9 a.m.	30.53	37	62	W	1	b
Gutzlaff	"	30.45	40	65	NNW	2	gy
Sharp Peak	"	30.37	52	73	N	5	or
Amoy	6 a.m.	30.18	59	88	NE	5	or
Swatow	"	30.14	56	94	NE	5	—
Taihoku	5 a.m.	30.23	—	—	E	6	—
Taichu	"	30 10	—	—	N	4	—
Tainan	"	30.12	—	—	N	4	—
Koshun	"	30.04	—	—	E	10	—
Pescadores	"	—	—	—	—	—	—
Canton	9 a.m.	30.31	50	100	N	1	or
Hongkong	10 a.m.	30.24	55	83	N	2	od
Victoria Peak	"	—	—	—	N	6	—
Gap Rock	"	30.18	—	—	N	6	—
Macao	"	30.25	56	—	N	3	od
Wuchow	9 a.m.	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hoihow	"	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pakhoi	"	—	—	—	—	—	—
Phullen	8 a.m.	30.20	54	—	NE	3	or
Tourane	"	30.05	32	—	NW	1	or
C. St. James	"	29.90	79	—	ENE	6	c
Aparri	6 a.m.	30.02	—	—	SE	1	c
Manila	10 a.m.	30.00	82	70	S	1	c
Legaspi	6 a.m.	29.93	75	—	NE	1	c
Bacolod	9 a.m.	—	—	—	NE	3	c
Iloilo	"	29.91	80	—	NE	1	c
Cebu	"	29.93	82	—	N	1	c
Labuan	"	29.84	84	—	—	—	—

TO-MORROW.

St. John's Cathedral.
20th December, 4th Sunday in Advent.
Holy Communion 7.30 a.m.
Matins 11 a.m., (Full Choir). Responses: Ferial, Venite: Turner, Psalms: of the 20th morning, (II.), Benedicite: Best in C, Jubilate: Goodson, Anthem: "Sleepers Wake," Mendelssohn.
Holy Communion 12 noon, Kyrie: Smart in F., Hymns: 51 and 49.
N.B. - Psalm 102, Verses 1, 12, 15, 23, 25, 28, in unison.
" 103, " 1, 8, 17, 19, 21, 22, "
Evensong 5.45 p.m., Responses: Ferial, Psalms of the 20th evening, (I), Magnificat: Camidge 12th morning, Nunc Dimittis: Felton, Hymns: 193, 53 and 51.
Preacher: Rev. A. D. Stewart, M.A.

St. Peter's Church.
Queen's Road West.
4th Sunday in Advent.
Morning Prayer 11 a.m., Venite: Turner, Psalms: Wesley and Foster, Te Deum: Oakeley, Hymns: 4, 73, 504, and 228, Kyrie.
Holy Communion 12.15 p.m.
Evening Prayer 6.30 p.m., Gloria: Magnificat: Crotch, Nunc Dimittis: Savage, Hymns: 58, 254, 593 and 556, Kyrie.
The Church launch *Daysprings* will call on ships carrying white crews to bring friends ashore to the services between 9.15 and 10.30 a.m., and between 5.15 and 6 p.m., (Kowloon Police Pier, 10.30 and 6 p.m.), returning afterwards. All the sittings are free and unappropriated. Visitors welcome, Books, &c., provided.
Sunday school 10 to 10.45 a.m.

Roman Catholic Cathedral:—Mass at 6 a.m., 7 a.m., 8 a.m., and 9.30 a.m., Benediction, 5.30 p.m.
German Bethesda Chapel, West Point:—Morning Service, 11 a.m.
St. Francis' Church, Wanchai:—Mass (*Chin*), 6 a.m. (*Port.*), 7.30 a.m. Benediction, 5 p.m.
St Joseph's Church, Garden Road:—Morning Service (*English*), 10 a.m.
St Anthony's Chapel, West Point:—Mass, 8 a.m.
The Rosary Church, Kowloon—Every Sunday, Mass at 7.30 a.m. and Mass, followed by the Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament, at 9 a.m.
Union Church:—Services, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.

FISHMONGERS AT THE HOTELS.

CRAIGIEBURN.

Adams, F. R. J.
Caldwell, G. E.
Clothier, Mr. and Mrs. H. W.
Fuller, Miss H.
Fuller, Miss
Gaster, Mr. E. R. A.
Jones, Dr. and Mrs. E.
Nikkels, R. N. W.
Pye, Mr. & Mrs. Burns
Rem, E. A.
Ritchie, Mr. and Mrs.
Ritchie, Miss D.
Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Grant
Smith, E. Grant
Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Morton
Wilson, G. L.

HONGKONG.

Adams, P. R.
Baggerly, H.
Barker, Mr. and Mrs. R.
Bartlett, H. D.
Bayeart, A.
Black, Dr. G. D. R.
Bliss, J.
Blower, H. D.
Barnard, Dr. Annie
Burns, W.
Burton Prof., Mrs. and Miss
Carpentier, E.
Condon, H. L.
Crook, A. H.
Custis, J.
Cumming, W. M.
Danzig A. H.
Delahanty, I.
Devereaux, W.
Doble, J. S. O.
Euers, J.
Esrom, F.
Fisher, Mr. and Mrs.
Fuller, Denman
Galimpoix, E.
Graney, G.
Gubbay, R. A.
Hall, Capt. T.
Haichinson, I. O.
Heitmuller, W.
Hewett, Hon. Mr. E. A.
Hildebrand, Mr. and Mrs.
Hinrich, S. ten Bokkel
Innes, Capt. R.
Jackson, J.
Laverton, G. A
Lesselass, P.
Lewis, Mrs.
Lindsay, Miss
Lovell, Sir Francis
Massey, Miss K. A.
Matthews, F. N.
McAmis, R.
McCulloch, Mrs. H. B.
McIntosh, G. C.
McKean, Dr. G. W.
Megie, Mr. and Mrs.
Muddle, R. T.
Newell, M. F.
Osborne, Mr. and Mrs. C. C.
Penrose, Major and Mrs. U.S.A.
Packer, B. L.
Peake, A. W. J.
Pearse, Dr. and Mrs. W. W.
Perindorge, Dr. & Mrs. G. de
Ray, E. H.
Reed, H. G
Robinson, W. Vaughan
Rodger, Mrs. R. and child
Smith, Capt. H. S.
Sowers, D. C.
Spittles, J.
Stabbing, W. T
Steele, Mrs. R. T.
Swift, Miss
Thomas, H. P.
Thomas, T. S.
Todd, Miss C.
Wallach, C.
Ward, Miss A. B.
William, N.
Wilson, R. A.
Woods, J. D.
Wright, Mr.
Young, F. S.

GRAND CARLTON.

Abios, A.
Bolden, E. J.
Brooke, Mr. and Mrs.
Compere, Master
Compere, Mr. and Mrs.
Dale, E. G.
Daniel, F. W.
Daniel, W. J.
Davies, F. O.
Day, E. W.
Fletcher, H. O.
Fletcher, J. P.
Forsyth, D.
Forsyth, K.
Gaudet, Andrea
Geasch, E. S.
Goulborn, V.
Gowen, R. A.
Gunkel, A. J.
Harcourt, J.
Hay, G. M.
Hone, W.
Kimm, Lieut.
Lack, S.
Lane, Mr. and Mrs.
McKee, Mr. and Mrs.
Millar, B.
Moore, Dr. and Mrs.
Moore, M.
Nellis, J. H.
Newman, K.
Payner, M.
Potts P. C.
Reay, Miss
Reiss, E.
Ribôt, Madame
Rigge, H. E.
Roland, A. J.
Rubin, M.
Shield, G.
Shruth, J. H.
Sidney, T.
Smyth, F.
Thompson, J. D.
Vane, C.
Vaughn, W.
Vigor, Mr. and Mrs.
Young, J. F.

ASTOR HOUSE.

Baillet, M.
Bagaley, Mrs. M.
Barirg, M.
Blaxland, Mr. and Mrs. M. C.
Bohn, Mr. and Mrs.
Bol on, E. A.
Cahling, Mrs. A. R.
Cameron, C. R.
collins, L. E.
Davidson, E.
Douarinou, Mrs.
Eyre, Mr. and Mrs. H.
Gomes, A. J. M.
Grant, J.
Haafner, Miss
Hamilton, J. C.
Hamilton, W.
Hough, Dr.
Houyet, Mr.
Jack, Mrs. A. M.
Kelly, W. H.
King, E. W.
Knoth, J.
Kopp, Albert
Linchan, J. T.
Lindenfeld, G. J.
Marcovitz, Mr.
McConnell, Dr. H. A.
Medley, J.
Milikoff, J.
Moberley, D. G.
Rand, Mr. and Mrs. J. W.
Raitzkowski, J.
Reordon, M. A.
Robinson, F. W.
Rothert, W.
Sanft, Mrs. D.
Sears, J. N. A.
Silva-Netto, Mr. and Mrs. A. F. and child
Torras, F. J.
Wasserrich, A. G.

PEAK.

Aubrey, Dr.
Aucott, E. F.
Bayard, Lt.-Col. and Mrs.
Beadnell, Surgeon and Mrs.
Bedford, Col. and Mrs.
Bolton, Mr. and Mrs.
Bowen, Mr. and Mrs.
Campbell, Miss Carter
Colleyshaw, E. H.
Cousland, Mr. & Miss
Craig, Capt. and Mrs.
Darling, Col.
Davidson, Mr.
Davidson, E.
Dooner, Mrs.
Ellis, Mrs.
Endies, Rev. and Mrs. Dallas
Evans, Miss
Finch, Capt. and Mrs.
Fisher, Mr. and Mrs.
Galbraith, Mr.
Ganeden, G. G.
Greenhill, L. S.
Grieve, Mrs.
Hassan, Mr. and Mrs.
Hockaday, W. T.
Houten, Mr. and Mrs. Van
Humphreys, W. M.
Hutchison, Capt. and Mrs.
Jeffries, H. N.
Joseph, Mr. and Mrs. E. S.
Kent, Mr. and Mrs. Knott, Mrs.
Knott, Mrs.
Lanning, Albert E.
Lawford, L. H.
Lloyd, Mr.
Martin, R.
Mitchell, R.
Montfield, Engr.-Com. and Mrs.
Moreno, A.
Peel, Mr.
Perkins, T. L.
Phillips, Major
Proby, Major
Reid, Lieut.-Col.
Risland Mr. and Mrs. H.
Sayle, Mr. and Mrs.
Sinclair, A.
Smith, A. Findlay
Stacpole, Lt.-Col.
Stewart, Capt. & Mrs.
Suter, Mrs.
Thompson, Lt. & Mrs.
Totton, Mr.
Tweedie, R.N., Lt. and Mrs.
Watkins, S. A.
Williford, F. C.
Williams, Dr. Fits Wood, David

	Dec. 18 at 10 a.m.	Dec. 18 at 4 p.m.
Barometer	30.16	30.11
Temperature	65	59
Humidity	84	88
Rainfall	0.13	—

HIS BRITANNIC MAJESTY'S SHIPS ON THE CHINA STATION.

Name.	Class.	Tons.	Guns.	I.H.P.	Captain.	Last reported at
Alacrity	despatch-vessel	700	4	3,000	Commander C. T. K. Fuller	Hongkong
Astraea	cruiser, 2nd class	1,360	10	7,000	Captain F. E. C. Ryan	Hongkong
Bedford	cruiser, 1st class	9,800	14	22,000	Captain S. E. Erskine	Hongkong
Bramble	river gunboat	710	6	900	Lt.-Comdr Hon. R. O. B. Bridgeman	Shanghai
Britomart	river gunboat	710	6	900	Lieut.-Commander F. B. Noble	Shanghai
Cadmus	sloop	1,070	6	1,400	Commander H. L. P. Heard	Shanghai
Cherub	water tank and tug	390	—	300	Master S. West	Hongkong
Clio	sloop	1,070	6	1,400	Commander C. T. Borrett	Hongkong
Fame	torpedo boat destroyer	306	6	5,700	Lieut.-Commander A. L. Gresson	Hongkong
Flora	cruiser, 2nd class	4,360	10	7,000	Captain Rowland Nugent	Shanghai
Handy	torpedo boat destroyer	275	6	4,000	Lieut.-Commander B. J. D. Guy, V.C.	Hongkong
Hart	torpedo boat destroyer	280	6	3,000	Lieut.-Commander Dickens	Canton
Jason	cruiser, 1st class	9,800	14	22,000	Lieut.-Commander C. A. Framande	Hongkong
Kent	cruiser, 1st class	14,200	18	30,000	Captain G. C. A. Marescaux	Hongkong
King Alfred	river gunboat	616	4	1,200	Captain Clinton Baker	en-route Singapore
Kinsha	surveying ship	1,070	6	1,400	Lieut.-Commander T. J. S. Lyne	Yangtze
Merlin	cruiser, 1st class	9,800	14	22,000	Commander F. H. Walter	en route Hongkong
Monmouth	river gunboat	180	2	800	Captain G. W. Smith	Woosung
Moorhen	river gunboat	85	2	240	Lieut.-Commander C. C. Walcott	West River
Nightingale	torpedo boat destroyer	350	6	6,300	Lieut.-Commander R. S. Roy	Yangtze
Otter	river gunboat	180	2	800	Lieut.-Commander J. White	Hongkong
Robin	river gunboat	85	2	240	Lieut.-

SHARE QUOTATIONS.

Supplied by Messrs. E. S. Kadoorie & Co. Corrected to noon; later alterations given under "Commercial Intelligence," page 5.

STOCKS.	NO. OF SHARES.	VALUE.	PAID UP.	POSITION AS PER LAST REPORT. RESERVE	POSITION AS PER LAST REPORT. AT WORKING ACCOUNT.	LAST DIVIDEND.	APPROXIMATE RETURN AT PRESENT QUOTATION, BASED ON LAST YEAR'S DIV.	CLOSING QUOTATIONS.
BANKS.								
Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation	120,000	$125	$125	£1,500,000 / $14,000,000 / $250,000	$21,005,774	Interim of £2 for first half year @ ex 1/9½=$21.042	5¼ %	$845 sellers / London £82
National Bank of China, Limited	99,925	£7	£6	£4,009 / $150,000	$10,275	$2 (London 5/6) for 1903	...	$50
MARINE INSURANCES.								
Canton Insurance Office, Limited	10,000	$250	$50	$1,560,000 / $232,757 / $412,990	none	$14 for 1907	7½ %	$195 buyers
North China Insurance Company, Limited	10,000	£15	£5	£125,000 / Tls. 150,000 / Tls. 303,747 / Tls. 118,277	Tls. 160,512	Final of 7/6 making 15/- for 1907	5¼ %	Tls. 105
Union Insurance Society of Canton, Limited	18,400	$250	$100	$3,000,000 / £00,000 / $302,478 / £129,695 / $727,649	$2,506,011	Final of $15 making $45 for 1906 and interim of $30 for 1907	5¼ %	$840 sellers
Yangtsze Insurance Association, Limited	18,000	$100	$60	$1,000,000 / $199,032 / $85,157	$591,763	$12 and bonus $3 for 1906	9 %	$165 buyers
FIRE INSURANCES.								
China Fire Insurance Company, Limited	0,000	$100	$20	$1,000,000 / $446,097 / $13,802	$372,432	$6 and bonus $2 for 1906	7½ %	$107 buyers
Hongkong Fire Insurance Company, Limited	8,000	$250	$50	$1,323,941	$428,027	$27 for 1906	8 %	$325
SHIPPING.								
China and Manila Steamship Company, Limited	30,000	$25	$25	$7,000	$1,035	$1 for 1906	...	$14
Douglas Steamship Company, Limited	20,000	$50	$50	$264,638 / $99,067	Nil.	$2½ for year ending 30.6.1908	7½ %	$33 buyers
Hongkong, Canton & Macao Steamboat Co., Ld.	80,000	$15	$15	$250,000 / $587,500 / $81,766 / $27,655	$17,755	$1½ for first half-year ending 30.6.08	8½ %	$29½ sellers
Indo-China Steam Navigation Co., Ld. (Preferred)	60,000	£5	£5	£10,000 / £240,000	£13,755	6/- for 1907 on Preference shares only @ ex 1/9 11/16=$3.154	5¼ %	$37
Do. do. (Deferred)	60,000							$17
Shanghai Tug and Lighter Company, Limited	200,000	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	Tls. 75,000	Tls. 14,510	Interim of Tls. 1½ for account 1908	7½ %	Tls. 48 sellers
Do. (Preference)	100,000						7 %	Tls. 51 buyers
"Shell" Transport and Trading Company, Limited	2,000,000	£1	£1	£720,000 / £ 20,000	£63,817	Final of 1/- making 3/- for 1907 and interim of 1/- (No. 10) for a/c 1908	6 %	47/-
"Star" Ferry Company, Limited	10,000	$10	$10	$ 5,000	$98	$21.00 / $0.50 for year ending 30.4.1908	4 %	$24
	10,000	$10	$5	$47,221			3½ %	$15
Taku Tug and Lighter Company, Limited	30,000	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	Tls. [illegible] / Tls. 42 479 / Tls. 7 [illegible] / Tls. 8 [illegible] / Tls. 12,000	Tls. 6,869	Final of Tls. 2½ making Tls. 5 for 1907	11 %	Tls. 45
REFINERIES.								
China Sugar Refining Company, Limited	20,000	$100	$100	$32,538 / [illegible]	Dr. $279,171	£8 for year ending 31.12.06	...	$112½
Luzon Sugar Refining Company, Limited	7,000	$100	$100	$56,848	Dr. $135 132	£3 for 1897	...	$10 sellers
Perak Sugar Cultivation Company, Limited	7,000	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	none	Tls. 9,173	Tls. 3½ for year ending 31.8.07	...	Tls. 82½ buyers
				Tls. 150,000				
MINING.								
Chinese Engineering and Mining Company, Ld.	1,000,000	£1	£1	£175,000	£11,556	Final of 1/6 (coupon No. 11) for year ending 29.2.08	7½ %	Tls. 17½ buyers
Kuala Australian Gold Mining Company, Limited	150,000	£1	18/10	£12,289				
	50,000	£1	£1	£4,871	Dr. £2,191	No. 12 of 1/-=48 cents	...	$9
DOCKS, WHARVES & GODOWNS.								
Fenwick (Geo.) & Co., Limited	18,000	$25	$25	$53,601	$3,726	$1.75 for year ending 31.12.06	...	$12
Hongkong & Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Ld.	60,000	$50	$50	Tls. 100,000 / $26,806 / $40,000	$3,556	Final of $2½ making $3½ for 1907	8 %	$43 sales
Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company, Ld.	50,000	$50	$50	$76,193 / $200,000	$384,847	Interim of $4 for account 1908	8½ %	$91 sellers
Shanghai Dock and Engineering Co., Ld.	55,700	Tls. 100	Tls. 100	Tls. 1,000,000	Tls. 33,742	Final of Tls. 2½ making in all Tls. 5 for year ending 30.4.08	7 %	Tls. 72½ buyers
Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf Company, Limited	36,000	Tls. 100	Tls. 100	Tls. 697,257 / Tls. 75,000 / Tls. 125,000	Tls. 22,626	Interim of Tls. 4 for account 1908	6 %	Tls. 135 sales
LANDS, HOTELS & BUILDINGS.								
Anglo-French Land Investment Co., Ld.	25,000	Tls. 100	Tls. 100	Tls. 25,000	Tls. 6,532	Tls. 6 for 1907	6 %	Tls. 100
Astor House Hotel Company, Limited (Shanghai)	30,000	$25	$25	$30,000	Dr. 24,200	$2½ for year ending 30.6.07	...	[illegible]
Central Stores, Limited	50,128	$15	$15	$1,000	99,178	$1.80 for 1906	...	$14½ buyers
Hongkong Hotel Company, Limited	12,000	$50	$50	$648,975 / $22,000	$14,639	Interim of 3s for account 1908	7½ %	$80 buyers
Hongkong Land Investment and Agency Co., Ld.	50,000	$100	$100	$250,000	$36,915	Interim of $3½ for account 1908	7½ %	$92 sellers
Humphreys Estate & Finance Company, Limited	150,000	$10	$10	$217,426 / $50,000	$4,621	70 cents for 1907	7½ %	$91 sellers
Kowloon Land and Building Company, Limited	66,000	$50	$50	none	$653	$2½ for 1907	6½ %	$35
Shanghai Land Investment Company, Limited	78,000	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	Tls. 1,523,045 / Tls. 170,000	Tls. 107,547	Interim of Tls. 3 for account 1908	7 %	Tls. 119 sales
West Point Building Company, Limited	12,500	$50	$50	none	$1,541	Interim of $2 for account 1908	9 %	$46
COTTON MILLS.								
Ewo Cotton Spinning and Weaving Company, Ld.	15,000	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	Tls. 150,000 / Tls. 45,939	Tls. 8,880	Tls. 5 for year ended 31.10.1908	6½ %	Tls. 75 b. ex div.
Hongkong Cotton Spinning, Weaving and Dyeing Company, Limited	125,000	$10	$10	$20,000	$9,553	50 cents for year ending 31.7.08	5 %	$10 sellers
International Cotton Manufacturing Company, Ld.	10,000	Tls. 75	Tls. 75	Tls. 175,200	Tls. 8,372	Tls. 6 for year ended 30.9.06 (8 %)	...	Tls. 60
Laou-kung-mow Cotton Spinning & Weaving Co., Ld.	8,000	Tls. 100	Tls. 100	none	Tls. 6,308	Tls. 8 for 1906	...	Tls. 66
Soy Chee Cotton Spinning Company, Limited	12,000	Tls. 500	Tls. 500	Tls. 28,257	Tls. 50,663	Tls. 50 for 1906	...	Tls. 270
MISCELLANEOUS.								
Bell's Asbestos Eastern Agency, Limited	8,604	12/6	12/6	£1,500	£648	1.10½ per share for 1907=$1.037	12 %	18 buyers
China-Borneo Company, Limited	60,000	$12	$12	$25,000	Nil.	$1.20 for 1907	11 %	$11
China Light and Power Company, Limited	50,000	$10	$10	none	61,138	60 cents for year ended 28.2.06	...	$5½
Do. Do. special shares	* 50,000	$1	$1					
China Provident Loan & Mortgage Company, Ld.	185,000	$10	$10	$120,000	$3,598	80 cents for 1907	8½ %	$9½ buyers
Dairy Farm Company, Limited	25,000	$7½	$6	$10,000 / $8,000	$48	$1.30 for year ending 31.7.08	5¾ %	$22½
Green Island Cement Company, Limited	400,000	$10	$10	$12,000	$5,078	Interim of 40 cents for account 1908	10 %	$10 sellers
H. Price & Company, Limited	12,000	$10	$10	$5,000	$251	75 cents for 9 months ending 31.12.07	8 %	$12 buyers
Hall & Holtz, Limited	21,000	$20	$20	$180,000	18,957	$2 for year ending 28.2.08	10 %	$20½ buyers
Hongkong Electric Company, Limited	60,000	$10	$10	none	$9,321	$1 and bonus 20 cts. for year ending 29.2.08	6½ %	$18 buyers
Hongkong Ice Company, Limited	5,000	$25	$25	$120,000	$4,578	Interim of $4 for account 1908	8½ %	$125 sellers
Hongkong Rope Manufacturing Company, Ld.	60,000	$10	$10	none	$8,191	Interim of $1 for account 1908	8 %	$24
Maatschappij tot Mijn-, Bosch- en Landbouwexploitatie in Langkat, Limited	25,000	Gs. 100	Gs. 100	Tls. 547,500	Tls. 17,127	4th Quarterly div. of Tls. 10 and bonus of Tls. 10 making $50 to date	5¼ %	Tls. 860 s. ex d.
Peak Tramways Company, Limited	25,000	$10	$10	Tls. 27,603				
Peak Tramways Company (new)	50,000	$10	$8½	$5,000	$7,471	80 cents on fully paid shares and 5 cents on $1 paid shares for year ending 30.4.08	6 % / 4 %	$14 / $2
Philippine Company, Limited	75,000	$10	$10	none				
Shanghai Gas Company, Limited	24,000	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	Tls. 100,000	Nil.	None	...	$8
Shanghai-Sumatra Tobacco Company, Limited	30,000	Tls. 20	Tls. 20	Tls. 24,820 / Tls. 75,000	Tls. 6,603	Final of Tls. 4 making Tls. 7½ for 1907	6½ %	Tls. 117 buyers
Shanghai Waterworks Company, Limited	16,150	£20	£20	Tls. 190,000	Tls. 8,493	Final of Tls. 9 making in all Tls. 14 for 1907	12 %	Tls. 122½ buyers
South China Morning Post, Limited	6,000	$25	$25	none	Tls. 58,132	Final of 37/6 making 52/6 for 1907	...	Tls. 437½
Steam Laundry Company, Limited	20,000	$ 5	$ 5	none	Dr. $90,237	None	...	$74
Tientsin Waterworks Company, Limited	2,000	Tls. 100	Tls. 100	Tls. 15,295	$236	40 cents for year ending 31.5.08	8 %	$5
Union Waterboat Company, Limited	50,000	$10	$10	Tls. 4,000	Tls. 201	Tls. 6½ for year ending 30.4.07	...	Tls. 94 buyers
United Asbestos Oriental Agency, Limited	10,000	$10	$4	$15,000	$111	50 cents for 1907	5 %	$10
Watson, (A. S.) & Co., Limited	90,000	$10	$10	$100,000	$1,360	80 cents on 9,900 ord. shares and $19.80 on 100 Founders' shares for yr. end. 31.5.07	6½ %	$13 buyers
William Powell, Limited	15,000	$7	$7	$25,000	16,438	Interim of 30 cents a/c 1908	6½ %	$9½
				none	$3.95	Final of 30 cts. making 60 cts. for the year ended 30th June, 1906	...	$4

* These shares are entitled to half of the profits ...

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THE MANAGER,
Hongkong Telegraph Co., Ltd.

Hongkong, 10th September, 1908. [52

The Hongkong Telegraph.

MAIL SUPPLEMENT.

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BIRTHS.

On November 30, 1908, at Foochow, the wife of G. SIEMSSEN, Esquire, H.G M.'s Consul, of a daughter.

On December 9, 1908, the wife of SIDNEY BARTON, H.M. Consular Service, Shanghai, of a daughter.

On 14th December, at the Government Civil Hospital, the wife of Sergt. WM. DAVITT, H.K.P., of a daughter.

MARRIAGE.

On December 12, 1908, at Shanghai, AMY, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. E. Hoyle of Pleasant View, Todmorden, Yorks, to GEORGE W. MERRISON, Sub-Inspector, Municipal Police, Shanghai. No Cards.

The Hongkong Telegraph

MAIL SUPPLEMENT,

ISSUED GRATIS TO SUBSCRIBERS.

HONGKONG, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 19, 1908.

MALARIA AMONG KOWLOON RAILWAY WORKMEN.

(12th December.)

"It will take years for the new ideas on malaria to take a place in the consideration of the engineer when designing or carrying out new works," writes Dr. Malcolm Watson, of the Federated Malay States, in the latest number of the *Journal of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene*. Corroboration of what might, from a layman's point of view, seem to be a somewhat rash assertion is found to a certain extent in the great number of Europeans employed in tunnelling on the Kowloon-Canton railway who are chronic sufferers from malarial fever. Like everything else connected with the phantom railway on the peninsula it is practically impossible to obtain data which would show what proportion of the European workmen have become subject to malarial fever since they began operations at the tunnel, but we should not be at all surprised to learn that there is not a single member of the original staff of employés now at work on the railway. Some have died, while many have been sent home invalided, the malaria germ having become so firmly established in their system that it was impossible to retain their services longer, while others with no claim on the benevolence of the contractors, have charitably been told to go. It is highly probable, of course, that the violent attacks of malaria experienced by the Europeans have been super-induced by reckless habits of living and in many instances by over-indulgence in strong drink. The life of the workers at the tunnel is one long monotonous round of daily toil, relieved only by flying visits to the city where the pent-up feelings of weeks find expression in a carnival of dissipation. The worker returns to his task perhaps less fit than ever to withstand the insidious disease and the strongest constitutions in time are undermined. But even if the men were plaster saints in glass cases they could not claim immunity from the deadly fever which lurks along the low-lying ground in the New Territories. Europeans who are not given to excess in any marked degree fall as readily into the toils as those who believe in "seeing life" at stated periods. And it is not only the Europeans who are affected, but also the Indians and Chinese, about whom less is heard. The tunnel and its environs, in fact, from all we can gather, are a veritable hotbed of the scourge, and the white and coloured races are equally susceptible to the effects of the disease, which will hang about them until they are removed to another climate. There is supposed to be a cottage hospital at Shatin or somewhere in that vicinity for the use of the railway employés, but if all accounts are to be trusted nobody goes near it, least of all the afflicted workmen. At all events, when the Europeans are so seriously ill with malaria that they are scarcely fit to stand—and a temperature of 104° is not at all uncommon among men who are trying to fight the disease in the tunnel—they are packed off bag and baggage to the Government Civil Hospital, which appears to be the only place where they can be certain of being relieved and temporarily patched up. We say temporarily, because when the fever has found its way into the bones it is almost impossible to effect its expulsion so long as the patient remains in Hongkong. Now what we should like to know is whether this state of affairs could not be remedied? It must be heart-rending to those on the spot to watch their companions striving vainly day after day to combat the disease and only giving in when tired nature refuses any longer to offer opposition. As we have said, several good English lives have been lost already owing to malarial fever—whose characteristics may have taken an exaggerated form through the weakened state of the frame, the result of dissipation perhaps—and there is little doubt that the humbler class of workmen, the Indians and Chinese, have also been great sufferers. In these circumstances it is surely high time that some steps should be taken by the Government to preserve the health of the workmen against the microbe which seems to work its will on those engaged in the construction of the railway. Dr. Malcolm Watson asserts that it is the engineers who are primarily responsible for the existence of malaria where malaria was previously a negligible quantity. He contends that engineers ought to realise that the construction of roads and public works, by producing breeding-places for mosquitoes, are important agents in spreading malaria and filaria. In the course of his article, Dr. Watson remarks: —"In connection with this subject, but the remark is equally applicable to all engineering works (railways included), much of the sickness attributed in a vague way to the opening up of a new country and the disturbance of soil is due to the mosquito-breeding places created by these works. While the works are in progress, it would in many instances be easy to avoid the creation of these, but once the labour is gone it is a more troublesome and expensive affair. Not an inconsiderable amount of the money spent at Klang and Port Swettenham on anti-malarial works would have been saved had some attention been given to these small but important points. It will take some time before the new ideas are reflected in engineering practice. To hasten this time, and to diminish the amount that will ultimately have to be undone, it will be necessary to impress on the engineering mind that work which without excuse leaves a trail of malaria behind it is bad engineering. I would suggest that Government inform the engineering department that the responsible engineer may, during the progress, and shall, on the completion of all works, be required to certify that as far as practicable no unnecessary pools have been created, and drainage has not been interfered with.' Further, a clause requiring attention to similar details should be inserted in all contracts. Simple as this expedient appears, I believe it would be of very great educative value by constantly keeping the matter before the engineer." Dr. Watson goes on to say that the stamping out of malaria, or at least reducing it to a minimum is a much more hopeful affair than has hitherto been anticipated. The extreme complexity of the life history of the parasite allows one to break the cycle at many points. The experience of Klang and Port Swettenham taken with the knowledge that malaria has died out in the Fen country of England, while anopheles still flourish in considerable numbers, all points in the same direction. He therefore urges upon the Government that to abolish malaria it is not necessary to abolish mosquitoes completely, and that measures intelligently directed at the disease may at once cost little and be strikingly effective. In a lucid summing-up, which cannot be pleasing to engineers however true it may be, Dr. Watson submits that: "Engineers do not yet realize the enormous influence for good or evil which they possess: that the manner in which they carry out the details of their work, while it may be of little consequence from an engineering point of view, may be of vital importance to the public health in a tropical country. Of course, it is bad engineering to do work which requires costly alteration at a later date, when at the original cost the work could have been done once and for all time. It will take years for the new ideas on malaria to take a place in the consideration of the engineer when designing or carrying out new works. In pioneer work in the tropics, where the health officer and the engineer are so much thrown together, it is desirable to remove all sources of friction, and it cannot be denied that when a health officer continually has the honour of inviting the engineer's attention to a swamp which he has unwittingly made, and which will necessitate his asking for money to undo the work which he has just completed, the officers concerned will be hardly human if friction does not result." We do not, of course, suggest that the engineers engaged in constructing the Kowloon-Canton railway have left undone anything that would conduce to the health of the employés, because as laymen the subject is outside our province, but it certainly does seem to us that there is something wrong somewhere when so many workmen, European and native alike, fall victims to the disease without apparently any additional remedial measures being adopted. The matter is one that requires the serious attention of the Government.

CHINESE MISSIONARIES TO CONVERT ENGLAND.

Considerable interest has apparently been aroused in England in connection with a protest made by a number of ladies against the practice of hunting hares in March, which appears to be one of the "sports" followed by the promising youths attending Eton. The subject is not one likely to become a burning question in the Far East and if it were not for the fact that a Chinese reformer, who is a humanitarian at heart, has seen fit to intervene in the discussion we should not be inclined to devote much attention to it. To understand the position, it will be necessary to give the gist of the protest which is signed by a score of ladies, including countesses, viscountesses, and a whole host of titled dames, including, as may well be imagined, a suffragette or two. The protest, which was addressed to the headmaster of Eton, and has been extensively quoted in the newspapers, says: "To many of those who are advocates of field sports in general, it seems that the hunting of a creature so timorous and defenceless as the hare is at best but little calculated to foster those qualities of manliness and courage which it is so desirable to develop in the youth of our nation; but to hunt the female hare at a time when she is handicapped by the burden which nature imposes on her, would seem to be not merely contrary to the spirit of true sportsmanship, but positively demoralising and degrading to all who consciously participate in it." The appeal to the headmaster to withdraw his countenance from this cruel and demoralising practice is emphasised in the following terms: "If it were proposed by the Education Committee of one of the County Councils to afford opportunities for the boys attending its schools to hunt hares in March, can it be doubted that there would be a general outcry against such a suggestion, and is it altogether reasonable that in this particular respect the morals of Eton boys—so many of whom, by their position in life, are destined in later years to afford conspicuous examples for good or evil—should be regarded as of less account to themselves and the community than the morals of the boys of lowlier station, who attend the ordinary elementary schools?" Three days after that protest appeared in the press, the headmaster of Eton wrote to the *Times* to announce an Eton Mission to China, and Old Etonians were invited to join in giving China "an opportunity of the best education and of learning Christianity." The *humanitarian*, which holds the principle that "it is iniquitous to inflict avoidable suffering on any sentient being," takes up the subject and in a scathing rebuke directed against those who indulge in the inhuman "sport" of hare hunting in March, remarks: "Are the Eton authorities so devoid of the least grain of humour that they do not see the rank absurdity of thus posing as the superiors of a highly-civilised nation, when their own school stands convicted of the most disgusting savagery at home? It would be far more pertinent that China should send a Mission to Eton; and we shall at least take care that the inhabitants of Chentu, where the Mission is to be posted, are fully informed as to the character of the sports indulged in by their instructors." It is at this stage that the Chinese humanitarian comes on the scene. The name of this reformer of English morals is Ching Ping, and he also has addressed an epistle to the headmaster of Eton on the subject of hare-hunting. But he is no mere regenerator in thought, he believes in action and he intends to bring a Chinese Mission to Eton and to preach to the young hopefuls of the noble families of England on the subject of cruelty. The letter is rather a curiosity in its way and may be published *in extenso*. It runs as follows:—

Honoured Sir,—I have read with deep interest, and no little surprise, your recent letter in *The Times* on the proposed establishment of an Eton Mission in my native town of Chentu for the purpose of giving to China the opportunity of the best education and of learning Christianity." It may interest you no less to hear that, with the aid of some fellow-citizens who, like myself, are conversant with English manners, I have determined to return the compliment by bringing a Chinese Mission to Eton, in order to give the boys some elementary lessons in the duty of humaneness to animals. I would remind you of that ancient British proverb, Charity begins at home." It being notorious, even as far as Chentu, that one of the recognised amusements of Eton boys is the "blooding" of hounds and the "breaking up" of hares—practices which would be regarded in any Chinese school as utterly wicked and immoral—it is evident that we Orientals may, without presumption, send a message of humanity and civilisation to your young barbarians of the West, of whom it has been said by a well-known writer that "they begin their education in brutality when they ought to be learning to say their prayers." I feel confident, Sir, that you yourself, as a fellow-vegetarian, whose personal tastes, if I may say so, are much more akin to those of Chinamen than of Etonians, will welcome this Mission which I hope shortly to introduce. My opening address will be entitled "The Sin of Cruelty, a Sermon preached to Christian Eton by a Heathen from Chentu." I remain, etc.,

CHING PING.

What with Scotch Buddhists endeavouring to gain converts in London and Chinese reformers preaching the gospel of humanity it would appear that the "yellow peril" has arrived, but not in the guise expected. Still, it is a noteworthy feature of modern life and the result of this propaganda work may be more far-reaching than people imagine. Has it not been the usual course of events for the missionary to lead the way, preparing the path for the trader, who ultimately calls to his assistance the military forces of his country? To put it another way; the Bible goes first, then follows the rum, and finally the flag is hoisted. If the Orientals are adopting similar tactics they are only following the lead given by the Christian nations of the Occident. Cortes conquered Mexico in the name of His Most Christian Majesty the King of Spain, and Pizarro never started on a trail in Peru without the presence of a goodly assortment of priests. When Britain at heaven's command arose from out the azure main she did not despise the services of the clergy, and there is many a nook and corner in the British Empire which would never have been coloured red on the map if it had not been for the self-sacrificing labours of the pioneer missionaries—who did not live on the fat of the land in those days—and the turbulent traders who were always in need of protection. It seems impossible, then, to gainsay the fact that the Oriental invasion of Great Britain has begun along the lines which have proved most successful when applied by Westerners. A Chinaman at the head of a Mission formed to propagate the blessings of humanity and civilisation among the young barbarians at home has a ludicrous aspect but, there may be more in it than meets the eye.

"STITCH, STITCH, STITCH."

Medical science is a wonderful thing in these days. By its means an individual may have all the organs of his body removed, apparently, and yet be a better man physically than his neighbour. There is no limit to the surgeon's experiments, and what a knife and a piece of horse hair cannot achieve is beyond human understanding. America is the land of simple remedies and daring experiments and it is from America that the latest marvel in surgical skill comes. Everybody knows what is meant by "Aldermanic proportions"; it is exactly the same idea which is conveyed by the term "bountiful corporation" and in ladies it is toned down to the mild "tendency to embonpoint." Now, there are some cross-grained aldermen who take serious objection to the bulging effect which numerous plates of turtle soup and copious draughts of old port are apt to produce on the nether regions of the human anatomy. It is not now deemed necessary to possess Falstaffian girth in order to maintain worthily the traditions of the Guildhall, and there are even lean, scraggy, hungry-looking specimens of humanity—mentioned by Shakespeare—persons fit for treasons and suspect of evil designs, who have wormed their way into high civic places. But these are exceptions, because long before a man has approved himself of his fellows he has attained a rotundity of figure and assumed a benignity of countenance which are the fruits of high living and placid or vacant minds. Still as we have said, the ribaldry of the vulgar riff-raff who compare the ample calves of James the butler with the pagado-circles of his master's triple chins, and the honorificability of the state coachman with longitudinality of the civic paunch, has affected many of His Majesty's loyalest subjects even to tears. With the assistance of our American cousins the wish of those who would look upon their feet once again before they die may be gratified; all that is necessary is to have a couple of tucks taken in their stomachs—to use a low but handy expression. The "inventor" of this method of curtailing the natural exuberance of a healthy and well-cared-for stomach is Dr. Henry D. Boyen, whose address is 1734 Spruce Street, Philadelphia, where all the dentists and doctors of divinity come from. The patient who has unwillingly become a second edition of jolly King Hal is treated, not for enlarged liver or generous spleen, but for an ailment known as gastroposis, otherwise called dropped stomach. The technical term would suffice for most people. What are aldermen famous for besides their corporeal protuberance? Is it not "gas" of the most effervescent sort and "gas" is the first syllable in the medical world which is coined to suit the complaint. It may be said that politicians, such as are nimble for high places in the United States are also found to be men of great weight, but to get "gas" another name for that delightful American product known as "hot air"? According to an American writer, there are two ways of winning renown as a man of massive build: one is to bolt your food as if Grabiol's barn was about to be sounded and the other is to gorge yourself at any old banquet that comes along. "In America" we are told, "when the stomach is filled to more than overflowing, when the walls of the 'bread basket' are stretched almost to the bursting point, then the very proper thing is to do something that nearly jars the back teeth into the œsophagus, and aggravates the stretching of the stomach," which is a rather neat way of expressing that vulgar operation known to sufferers of *mal de mer*. "The result of these various indiscretions of the American people is permanently to distend the stomach, stretch it so that it gets out of place, and by reason of being stretched, cannot properly contract and assist in digesting the food," which is extremely learned. In order that the common or garden reader may understand the position thoroughly, the following illustration may be useful: "On just the same principle as a piece of rubber, stretched once, will spring back into place, but stretched repeatedly and kept distended, will lose its elasticity—just so does the stomach refuse in time to jump back into place." That is the whole matter in a nutshell. The cause of all indigestion is believed by many physicians to be due to the shifting of the stomach from its normal position, so that the food is neither properly digested nor readily assimilated. By taking a number of stitches and shortening the ligaments to which the organ is attached, it is brought back to its proper position. This is the principle successfully evolved by Mr. Boyen. The operation, it is reported, has been performed no less than ten times with the most gratifying success, both to the operator and the party operated on. In fact, it is so pleasant, and the sensation is so delicious and invigorating that it is likely to become the fad of the season, and you will be voted "bad form" unless you can point with pride to the eight or ten stitches that have been taken in your stomach. It is improbable, however, that Hongkong surgeons will benefit to any great extent by the incoming fashion. People here are so busy thinking of the wherewithal to fill up empty gaps in their stomach and in the abnormally absorbent stomachs of the rising generation that they have no necessity as a rule to indulge in stitches. Indeed they prefer a good "tuck" in their stomach to half a dozen tucks outside.

OUR REPRESENTATIVE TO THE OPIUM CONFERENCE.

(14th December.)

Acting on instructions from the Secretary of State, the Governor has nominated Mr. Cecil Clementi to be the representative of Hongkong at the forthcoming International Conference on Opium which is to be held at Shanghai in the early part of February. After the lucid and illuminating report presented by Mr. Clementi to the Government on the subject of Chinese indulgence in the use of the drug, and his masterly refutation of the wild assertions submitted by the anti-opium brigade, it was only to be expected that as one of the few having an exact acquaintance with the subject he should be selected for the post. The English reformers have never succeeded in refuting the statements contained in that report or in disproving the deductions drawn from the statistics collected by the compiler, for the simple reason that the facts in the first place were irrefragable and the analysis of the figures was based on a careful examination of authenticated records. We do not doubt that the appointment of Mr. Clementi as the representative of this Colony will be received with something akin to suspicion by certain members of the Conference, who have already made up their minds on the opium question. Biased themselves it will be difficult for them to realise that there are others who can view the position from a detached standpoint and who will accept no asseveration which cannot stand the cold scrutiny of the impartial mind. Even if we grant that the ministerial element is ready to adopt an attitude entirely just and without prejudice towards all concerned, are we entitled to assume that the brethren are prepared to eat their own words, should the Conference go against them? For months the agitation against the continuance of the opium trade has been worked for all it is worth by the more rabid members of the righteous class which has more particularly identified itself with the movement. The orators have done their utmost to show the demoralising influence which the opium trade has exercised on the people of China as well as on those engaged in the traffic and no doubt pictures of the depths of misery to which the victims of the opium habit have been reduced are still circulating throughout the world. It comes as a cold douche to these misinformed enthusiasts to discover that indulgence in what we will admit is a vice, just as dram-drinking, cigarette smoking, betting and lasciviousness are vices, is confined to such an infinitesimal proportion of the Chinese population as to be barely computible. But that does not affect the violence of their language on the strength of their convictions. Indeed the faintest sign of opposition serves to intensify their spirit of reform. When these leaders of public opinion address themselves to the Government we know exactly the ground they take and if their arguments are unsound they can be refuted. But what we should like to know is what these energetic propagandists tell the church people, the little country gatherings in the village hall, where the colour of a black coat gives weight to the rankest absurdities? Are these innocent people shown the other side of the picture, or are they simply regaled with the vapid vapourings of ministerial "spell-binders" who have their own fish to fry? In the event of the Conference coming to the conclusion that much of the dire misery resulting from the traffic in opium is imaginary, that it is impossible to stamp out one evil without opening the door to a host of others whose effects on the Chinese would be ten times more deplorable, that the time is not ripe for the advancement of the millenium by a single stage, will those gentlemen who have, we will take it, proved their claim to be considered workers in the public weal, willingly stand forth and admit that they were mistaken, or that they were proceeding on wrong lines? Nobody outside the fervent few who have fomented this agitation for the suppression of opium has the slightest doubt as to what would be the immediate result were the campaign to prove successful. Supposing the Chinese Government could say to-day that the last patch of land given over to the cultivation of the poppy had been filled and planted with wheat, that a generation had arisen which knew not the opium pipe nor sought its charms, is it to be believed that China would become a sort of earthly paradise? What about the vendors of those vile concoctions which have decimated the savage tribes of the world? Are they also to give up business, and live on the profits derived from the performance of good works? Human nature being what it is, we fear that the opium reformers are only macadamising the roadway for the introduction of greater miseries than those attributed to the poppy. That is one of the principal side issues in this warfare directed against the opium-smoker, and slight consideration shows how necessary it is that sanity and to use an Americanism "horse-sense" should govern the deliberations of the Conference. We know that the British Imperial delegates will attend the meetings prepared to give a fair hearing to all sides of the question, and as they are fortified with actual facts gathered personally and put together with painstaking care they will take a reasonable attitude, but what are facts to the purblind? No one will envy Mr. Clementi either his appointment or his mission, because to a certain extent Mr. Clementi is the cause of all the trouble. If Mr. Clementi's report had never been published there might have been no Conference. It was Mr. Clementi who utilised the X-rays to discover whether there was any solid substance in the statements of the anti-opiumists. For that reason Mr. Clementi may not be altogether *persona grata* with the agitators for reform but he will be none the less a brake on the exuberance of their verbosity. Even should he prefer to remain in the background and leave the oratorical part to the more distinguished members of the British delegation, he will be an admirable "coach" and mentor to those who submit the interests of Hongkong to the members of the Conference.

PATERNAL LEGISLATION IN JAPAN.

In Hongkong we complain, it may be with or without reason, of the stringent regulations enforced by the police authorities from time to time in the interests of law and order. We discover just grievances lying around in profusion, and occasionally an impulsive individual airs his grumble through the medium of the press. But the police penal regulations of Hongkong are as a milk diet compared with the strong fare recently promulgated in Kobe. There are 59 articles or sections altogether in the list, and they seem to cover every mortal peccadillo that flesh is wont to commit. Four of the offences mentioned render the offenders liable to police detention for a period not exceeding 30 days, apparently without the option of a fine, and it may be interesting to those in Hongkong who do not know when they are well off to learn how strictly their neighbours in Kobe are kept in order. The first three articles are of little moment, but the fourth would be appreciated by numerous merchants in Hongkong, including compradores and people of that ilk who may be looking forward to the New Year with some misgivings. The article applies to "any person persistently pressing another for an interview or importunately demanding from him a gift of any kind, or intimidating him in any way." That should give the quietus to the numerous canvassers and hawkers who make life a misery to the busy man. There is a great variety of offences which are punishable by a short term of imprisonment not exceeding ten days or a fine up to $20. Under this category come beggars, people who are bent on collecting alms, people who compel others to do things against their will for the purpose of obtaining a profit, etc. It is unlawful to press another "to offer a tender jointly with him" or to press a successful contractor "to give him a share of the profits accruing from his work," or to maliciously injure another's occupation. We come nearer home when we arrive at the sections dealing with advertisements and kindred matters. There are three articles which deal with this subject and render offenders liable to be haled before the Court. They concern any person publishing exaggerated or false advertisements by means of journals, periodicals or in any other way, with a view to unlawful profit; any person importunately demanding from another subscriptions or pressing another against his will, for the insertion of advertisements in journals, periodicals, or any other publications; any person sending to another journals or periodicals or any other publications which were not asked for, demanding payment therefor, or for advertisements which have been inserted in the papers without any request from the other person. It is perfectly obvious that the parties who were responsible for the framing of these regulations knew much more about the internal working of some journals than the unsophisticated newspaper world usually credits the outside public with. We should like to learn what the Japanese authorities consider an "exaggerated" advertisement, and who is to say when it may

be described as "false"? It may be that the authorities are aiming at those advertisements which proclaim the virtues of cheap nostrums whose efficacy depends entirely upon the credulity of the purchaser, or, again, it might be applied to those political aspirants who publish manifestoes promising the earth to those who favour them with their suffrage. The article which threatens the person who demands that his advertisements be published is rather a novelty in its way, seeing that the managerial department of most newspapers is quite ready to consider such a proposition at any time, provided the advertisements are of a clean, respectable and honest character, and do not infringe the common law. The thirteenth article, which makes it a punishable offence to solicit payment for journals or publications that have been sent on trust shows that in Japan at least there are some people who know how to develop a stagnant journal into a flourishing concern with the largest circulation in the Far East. The suggestion also that there are newspapers which publish advertisements clipped from other papers and then demand payment for their little quirk is a revelation in the art of how astute managers fill up space. That there are newspapers which give an appearance of solidity to their advertising columns by the adoption of such methods, and even find advertisers who pay on demand for a publicity they did not desire, is incontrovertible, and when the police deem the practice of sufficient importance to warrant the enacting of special legislation to defeat its purpose, there must be grounds for believing that it is not confined to petty hucksters or struggling publications. The law is also to be invoked against those who fail to light lamps or make other arrangements necessary for the safety of passengers through public places, which we suppose refers to public works. It is an offence to circulate groundless rumours or false reports calculated to injure other persons, so that unless the ladies of Kobe are adepts at innuendo five o'clock tea parties are likely to be robbed of half their enjoyment. Regulations against the use of charms, amulets, incantations, etc., supplied by Oriental witches and necromancers to cure diseases, and the mischievous application of mesmerism and hypnotism are placed under the ban, but the 29th article will certainly come as a surprise to Europeans. It is the shortest section on the list and its terms are the most explicit. It is now an offence punishable by imprisonment or fine for any person to tatoo his own body or that of another in Japan. We had always been under the impression that Japan was the home of the tatooing fraternity, that all the artists who embellish the human body with dragons breathing fire and brimstone acquired their reputation in the land of the Rising Sun before emigrating abroad. That may have been the case in the past, but so far as Japan is concerned the art is doomed to die the death of inanition. No longer will kings, emperors and potentates exhibit the irrefragable evidence of their visit to Japan, and incidentally prove their identity by means of marvellous and weird symbols traced in indelible colours on their bodies; they must in future be content with the simple strawberry mark which is the only sure token of nobility. And we to expect, as the result of this prohibition, an exodus of Japanese tatooers from their native country and a consequent influx of the craft in Hongkong? Another regulation on which would be violated in thought and deed by every other man in Hongkong is that which makes it illegal for "any person to throw or discharge a thing against the person or possession of another, or do the like at a place so situated as to cause injury to the person or possession of another." How would that regulation work in the case of stray cats which, neglecting their essential duty of waging war on rodents, spend the night serenading the moon? One article is certainly worth the notice of the authorities in Hongkong, for it penalises "Any person offering for sale in his shop uncovered, any article of food which is ready for eating without being boiled, roasted, cleaned, or peeled, or requiring further process of dressing." On the whole the regulations with one or two exceptions are of a paternal character, and should contribute to the amenities of that picturesque Empire, but they should be studied by the intending tourist otherwise he is liable to find himself in the lock-up within 24 hours of his arrival in Japan.

THE JURISDICTION OF THE COURT.

(15th December.)

The vagaries of the bankruptcy laws in Hongkong and the comparative impotence of creditors, in the case of an absconding debtor have been so frequently discussed by the judges of the Supreme Court that the subject is becoming somewhat threadbare. Judgments without end have been delivered on the question as to the jurisdiction of the Court when the debtor has been known to possess ample funds sufficient to meet his liabilities, but located in another Colony or in China; while the subject of "domicile" has exercised every judge who has occupied the bench in Hongkong. Yet, speaking from the lay point of view; it is doubtful whether all these decisions and pronouncements have led anxious creditors one step forward in the way of obtaining redress when the bankrupt is in a position to employ all the machinery of the law in order to defeat the ends of justice. In almost every case there is the question of domicile to be decided and if that fails the general argument of no-jurisdiction has to be settled. When the Chief Justice hinted yesterday in the course of a judgment covering both these points that he intended to lay down the law on the subject, the mercantile community must have naturally rejoiced and perused with interest His Honour's remarks on a couple of extremely vexed questions. After reading the summarised version of the judgment, however, we are bound to confess that the whole subject seems to be still enveloped in the old November fog. In fact when we come to reconcile all the points referred to by the Chief Justice, daylight seems to be farther away than ever. In this case the debtor was a Chinaman, that is to say, we take it, a Chinese subject, who traded in goods purchased in Aonam. Although he had no "ordinary" place of business in the Colony, he was usually to be found at a certain place while he was in Hongkong each year to dispose of his goods. It was there that he met his clients and it was there that the bargains were concluded. One of the questions to be decided by the Court was whether the place at which he met his clients, was a "place of business" within the meaning of the law and had the debtor a "hold" on the country, or, as it might be stated, a stake in the Colony? His Honour arrived at the conclusion that the bankrupt was a resident of Aonam, so that he could not be considered as being domiciled in Hongkong. The Chief Justice put the case more strongly, for he observed: "The debtor certainly was not domiciled in the Colony, and, as I have said on a previous occasion, I do not suppose, there are 100 Chinamen in the Colony who are domiciled here, as the larger number of those who reside here all desire and intend to return to China whenever they have made enough money or when commercial adversity compels them." That appears to contain a rather wide assertion, for it practically means that until each and all of us is safely laid to rest at 'Happy Valley we are merely strangers in a strange land. As one lawyer said in another case, although he had been in Hongkong fourteen, or was it forty, years, he did not consider that he had acquired a "domicile" in the Colony. As a matter of fact the dictum that because a man has the desire and intends some day to return to his birthplace he is therefore without domicile, is far too sweeping. At that rate few need acquire domicile in Hongkong, certainly not the Chinese born in the Colony, because they may declare it to be their intention to have their bones interred in Chinese soil. And surely when the Chief Justice suggests that there are not more than 100 Chinamen domiciled in the Colony he must be out of his reckoning—except, of course, on the assumption that it is impossible to acquire domicile where perpetual residence is not contemplated. At all events, the Chinese bankrupt in this case had not become domiciled in Hongkong. Had he then a "place of business" as understood under the law? According to the Chief Justice, who confessed that he was not quite clear as to whether the place of business must belong to or be under the control of the debtor, the Chinese bankrupt in question did have a place of business and a hold on the country, because his customers knew where to find him and he was able to induce people to give him credit. To quote His Honour: "What I think is the meaning of the phrase 'hold on the country' is that it is such a position which will induce people by reason of it to give a person credit. It seems to me that if a man is doing business such as concluding bargains for the sale of his goods at a place where he may be seen doing it then others may not unreasonably suppose that he has business to do and that is the place where he does it and on the strength of that people may give him credit. If they do then that place becomes for the purpose of bankruptcy law his 'place of business.' This seems to be a reasonable distinction to draw between the case where a man sends goods to be sold on commission leaving the business entirely in the hands of the commission-agent and one who intermeddles in the eyes of the business world with the making of the bargains." Taking that judgment as it stands, it seems to us that any merchant—no matter what his nationality may be—who finds temporary accommodation at some place, by the courtesy of some friend or relative, where his clients may find him has in the eyes of the law a "place of business" in the Colony even if it is only a hole in the wall. If his clients do not take the trouble to find out his precise position at this "place of business" or seek to discover whether he is a partner or an interested party in the firm which has provided him with a temporary desk and a blotting pad, and advance him sums of money on credit, they have only themselves to blame, if they find, as they probably would find, in the event of bankruptcy proceedings, that the assets as compared with the liabilities were infinitesimal. All that the judgment has apparently made clear is that a Chinaman who desires to return to China before he dies does not acquire domicile in Hongkong, and that a place of business may be any place where the bankrupt is to be found by his clients when he is prepared to discuss business propositions. Whether that judgment leads us nearer to a solution of the problems which invariably arise in bankruptcy cases is purely a matter of opinion. It certainly provides no remedy for the unsuspecting creditor who is beguiled into giving credit to an unscrupulous debtor, who trades on his assumed connection with the persons who allow him to conclude his business on their premises. His Honour found in this case that the Court had jurisdiction apparently because the debtor had a "place of business"—at any rate, that jurisdiction was not founded on the bankrupt's domiciliary qualifications. We are unable to understand, however, the meaning of the "therefore" in the following sentence:—"It is therefore the fact that there are other creditors, which brings the case within the purview of the bankruptcy jurisdiction of the Court; whether they can justify their claims is another matter with which I have not now to deal." If the man had had no creditors he wouldn't have been a debtor, far less a bankrupt, but the fact that he had creditors did not necessarily bring the case within the jurisdiction of the Court. Possibly the legal fraternity can see light through the tangle; if so, we can only congratulate them on their natural perspicacity.

BURLESQUE EDUCATION.

Compulsory education is Viceroy Chang Chih-tung's latest scheme for the benefit of the rising generation. What the Viceroy proposes to do in the matter and how the Ministry of Education is to carry the idea into effect is not explained, but no doubt the scheme will follow the usual course and be duly pigeonholed for future reference. If the education which the Viceroy would suggest should be imported were of the usual bookish character, without technical instruction it might as well be shelved. Education is all very well in its way, but if it is the sort of education which unfits a peasant's son for field work, and leads him to despise the working mechanic and the toiling tradesman, then it is worse than no education at all. We have been reading in the *Celestial* some stinging criticisms of the education which an enlightened but short-sighted Government is importing to the youth of the Philippines. An examination paper fell into the editorial office and the inborn curiosity of the first journalist who picked it up induced him to peruse its contents. It was an examination paper on animal life and as an example of the sort of thing that should be suppressed, especially in a new country which is pining and languishing for want of workers this test of the knowledge of Government pupils would be difficult to beat. We need not quote the paper in full but a few of the questions which the intelligent muchacho, who is supposed to be in training for the future development of his native land, is expected to answer correctly may be submitted. For example, this bright specimen of youth who will one day be fighting for leadership in the industrial, commercial or agricultural arena, is being taught to recognise the characteristics of monkeys, to describe the peculiarities of the orang outang's brain and to compare the birds of the tropics with those of the temperate regions. "What are reptiles?" is one question. "Why can a fly walk up a pane of glass?" There's a problem for you, but if you can solve it right away, tell what you mean when you speak of insects. "Compare the mosquito with the grasshopper" should furnish a wide field for the imaginative youth, and if he manages to wrestle through that he is faced with the request: "Name the parts into which the body of an insect is usually divided." That is the education which the Gamalliels in the Philippines are handing out to the youth committed to their charge. Little wonder that the *Cablenews* scourges the authorities with the flail of its wrath. These children born in the Philippines are not confined like the children of Hongkong to the prospect of a life devoted to commercial or industrial interests. They have a much broader horizon and vastly wider possibilities of launching out on a career of usefulness. After sarcastically referring to the futility of teaching the native-born how to distinguish between mosquitoes and grasshoppers our contemporary remarks:—"We thought of the filthy places of this capital, of the thousands of children who die in their first year from their parents' ignorance of hygiene, of the poverty and brutishness of the great mass of the Filipino people, of the false ideals of the race, of the repugnance to work, of the millions of uncultivated acres, of the desperate need of men in the fields, of skilled mechanics, carpenters and others, of the necessity of teaching the dignity of labour—And when we looked again at the examination paper, and reckoned the millions of pesos spent here by this Government to teach these things, of the educational system which is turning out youths who hate work, who will not soil their hands, and who by the very nature of their acquired knowledge are unfitted for the toil which is nearest to them and most vital to the Philippines, we laughed." Coming down to the concrete, the writer observed: "We recalled that but a few days ago the Philippine Assembly committee had changes and repairs made in the session hall, and that Japanese and Chinese carpenters were employed because there were not Filipino carpenters capable or willing. We saw the shacks in the cities and provinces, dirty, insanitary and flimsy, and with two or three grow men lolling in the windows of each, or on the ground stroking fighting cocks." We hope that in the bitterness of his heart, the writer has been led into the pitfall of exaggeration; at the same time there is a ring of fact about these statements which will not be denied. The fault of the educational system being what it is lies with the Government, and of course the Government has no time to deal with such trifles. We wonder if Viceroy Chang Chih-tung would demoralise the finest and hardest workers living by compelling them to learn the number of legs attached to a fly and why it can skate on glass if his compulsory education scheme were adopted?

A STIMULANT FOR CANTON.

(16th December.)

From the report published in yesterday's issue it is evident that the representations of His Excellency Chang, Viceroy of the Two Kwang Provinces, have been more successful in pushing forward the interests of the Hunan-Hupeh section of the Canton-Hankow railway than those submitted with respect to the line running through Kwangtung and Kwangsi. It is reported, and there is every likelihood that the telegraphed account will be found correct, that Chang Chih-tung and Yuan Shih-kai have been in negotiation with J. O. P. Bland, the energetic representative of the British and Chinese Corporation, with the object of raising a loan of 20 million dollars which is to be devoted towards the construction of the grand trunk line through the two important provinces of Hunan and Hupeh. The necessity of raising a loan for the purpose of carrying the line through Hunan is obvious, when it is remembered that despite repeated efforts on the part of the Provincial Government to induce the Hunanese to take a financial interest in the trunk railway the subscriptions received are practically *nil*. The Hunanese are a conservative people, content to remain undisturbed by the turmoil of the outer world. The capital, Changsha, is a city of retired officials, who have decided to end their days in peace and will have nothing to do with speculative concerns. The Hunanese, as a recent writer put it, "show their sturdy independence by refusing to put up a single cash for the projected line, though they have been invited more than once to do so. They will not trust the officials with their money, though the province is wealthy and awaiting a development that the railway would in part bring to it. Hunan is, of course, a very old part of China, and it seems strange to use the word development in a country that has been peopled for thousands of years by inhabitants who have for so long been living in circumstances of comparative comfort." It will therefore be seen that in face of the attitude of the people of Hunan it was necessary, if the railway was to be built within a reasonable space of time, to raise a loan for the purpose and the services of the British and Chinese Corporation, which has already proved so valuable an auxiliary in providing for the railway needs of China, were naturally requisitioned. We may take it for granted that the loan will as usual be arranged through the medium of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, whose operations in this direction have now assumed such enormous dimensions that it is rapidly becoming a notable factor in the material development of the Middle Kingdom. The loan should be arranged without much difficulty and may be expected to contribute still further to the reputation and importance of the Corporation in the financial world. The fact that the authorities in the North are so thoroughly alive to the advantages to be derived from the construction of the section in question that they are prepared to contract a foreign loan in order that the work may be proceeded with as soon as possible is proof of the somewhat more enlightened views which are entertained by the Chinese officials. As a writer in a Northern contemporary has pointed out: "The successful inauguration of the work on the Tientsin-Pukow Railway has shown that a foreign loan does not necessarily put the control of a railway into the hands of foreigners, it being only necessary to see to it that the loan agreement entered into between borrower and lender be properly and carefully drawn up, so as to keep the control in the hands of the former and not of the latter." The loan agreement should have the further effect of stimulating the somnolent builders of the railway through Kwangtung and Kwangsi to awakened activity. Far too long has the extension of the line to Hankow been held up by the squabbles and bickerings among shareholders and directors of the Yueh-Han railway. Years have elapsed since the people of the Kwang provinces were induced to subscribe towards the construction of the line which would bring Canton into direct communication with the capital of the Empire, and still there is nothing or practically nothing to show for the time that has been wasted. It had been hoped that when H.E. Chang Chih-tung was appointed superintendent of the section running through to Hunan that there would be a noteworthy advance in the operations, but circumstances have occurred which have prevented Chang Chih-tung from personally taking over control of the mine, and unless the shareholders take drastic steps to compel the board of directors to proceed with the work of construction it does not seem as if there would be any marked improvement in the methods of the directorate for some time to come. No wonder that the second call on those to whom were allotted shares has proved a partial failure, only about a fifth of the total amount expected having been received. So long as there is nothing tangible to show for the millions that the people of all classes have poured into the railway fund, and so long as the directors proceed at a snail's gallop, the interest originally evoked in the scheme which had for its purpose the construction of a Chinese railway, with Chinese capital, and by Chinese labour, and under the supervision of Chinese engineers is bound to wither away and stagnate. It is therefore to be hoped that when news of the new loan has percolated through the provinces and the directorate is roused to a proper sense of its responsibilities impetus will be given to the completing of a work which will benefit, not merely the present shareholders, but the people throughout the two Provinces of Kwangtung and Kwangsi and also, in a lesser degree, of the Empire as a whole. Whether the plan of the Canton Viceroy to raise a British loan with which to proceed with the line through the territory under his rule will be successfully engineered remains an open question, but anything would be an advance on the present deadlock. In fact, renewed interest in the railway would probably divert public attention from the unfortunate incidents which are being utilised by agitators to excite popular opinion against foreigners, and for that reason alone any differences of judgment that might occur in the councils of the railway directors would be welcomed as a happy relief from the continual wailing of the Self-Government Society and the absurd talk about boycotts.

CHINA'S CHAOTIC CURRENCY.

"The Tientsin Mint has finished minting the first lot of the new one-tael coins numbering 40,000 and has sent them to the Board of Finance. It is believed that the accounts for the current month will be paid with these coins." If the foregoing statement were to be taken as an indication that the adoption of a uniform standard currency was about to be adopted throughout the length and breadth of China it might be cause for satisfaction among those who are financially interested in the future of the Empire. On several occasions, of late, rumours emanating from the capital have encouraged the belief that China was at last considering the advisability of giving effect to one of the most important articles in the treaty of 1902, but nothing has eventuated. China still stands by its chaotic currency system, which is one of the greatest puzzles and sources of financial dementia extant. The reason of this inert attitude on the part of the officials may be found, to a certain extent, in the immense profits which are to be derived from the minting of silver tokens of a weight and fineness which have been calculated to yield the best remunerative results, irrespective of their influence on the money market. Nobody relishes the idea of relinquishing a certain source of income, and Chinese officials are no more given to philanthropic propositions than those of other countries—to put it mildly. But when all these reports regarding the proposed uniform currency are current, it is evident that the subject is securing more attention than has hitherto been given to it, and that the question may be settled on an equitable basis before the present generation has disappeared. Some of the difficulties which confront the financial reforms are, however, of an exceptional character. Sir Alexander Hosie, the Commercial Attaché to the British Legation at Peking, has pointed out the conflicting interests that are at stake in regard to the currency problem. "At the present moment," he says, "there is no silver coin of universal acceptance throughout China. Some years ago the Hupeh mint coined an issue of Kuping tael pieces, and it was thought for a time that the Government had decided on the tael piece as the uniform silver coin, but the issue was called in after a time, and the provincial mints continue to issue each its own coins, the tendency being to turn out as many as possible of the subsidiary coins which yield a much larger profit than dollars." He has given a lively description of his experience at a telegraph office in Honan, at which he tendered three Chinese dollars of the Peiyang mint and one of the Hupeh mint—dollars circulating in two provinces between which Honan lies. For the benefit of those who have a calculating bent Sir Alexander Hosie's statement may be quoted, the cost of the telegraphic message being, it should be explained, $3.62. "On each of the Peiyang dollars the discount was 20 cash, a total of 100 cash. The copper exchange of the foreign dollar was then 900 1-cash or 90 10-cash pieces, so that four foreign dollars were worth 3,600 cash. My four Chinese dollars were, however, worth only 3,500 cash. Had I tendered foreign dollars I was entitled to 40 cents change or 360 cash, but from this had to be deducted 100 cash, and I received only 26 10-cash pieces, thus losing 100 cash because I used the coins of the country in which I was travelling. But I lost more than 100 cash because Honan, as compared with other provinces, has succeeded in maintaining the face value of its copper coins and not one of the 26 10-cash pieces which I received as change was minted in Honan. The above is a pretty illustration of the injury that is done to China by the ill-regulated coinage of the provincial mints and of the necessity that exists for a uniform silver coin that will be accepted throughout the Empire." Sir Alexander Hosie states that in some parts of China only British and Mexican dollars are accepted at par, while even the best of the Chinese dollars are subject to discount. His remedy is the coinage of a silver dollar of sufficient fineness and weight to hold its own with the British or Mexican dollar. He holds that its coinage should be restricted to a few mints under careful supervision, and it should bear the name of no particular mint. A statement in Chinese that it is the product of the Chinese Government mint should suffice. Subsidiary silver pieces of 40 cents and 20 cents of equal fineness with the dollar and of proportionate weight would also be necessary, but pieces of 10 cents and 5 cents should contain more alloy. This dollar should, after a fixed and reasonable time, be made the only legal tender in payment of all Government dues, duties and the subsidiary coins up to certain fixed amounts. But to complete the uniformity more is required. The over-issue of new copper coins, while proving a source of great profit to the mints, has already done incalculable harm to the people. The number of 10-cash coins in 1907 was at the lowest estimate 2,000,000,000. The old cash pieces have largely disappeared and the new coins, having as a rule lost much of their face value, do not readily lend themselves for fractional use in a country where the necessaries of life are comparatively cheap and a single cash may make a purchase. With regard to the relation of the subsidiary coinage to the dollar, Sir Alexander Hosie remarks that as there is no fixed exchange between silver dollars and copper the first essential seems to be to fix that exchange, and there seems no reason why China should not fix the value of a uniform dollar at 1,000 cash already prevailing as she does the decimal system in her silver coinage. As in the case of the suggested uniform dollar the copper coins should be marked "Chinese Government Mint" and bear the name of no particular mint or province. That the sum of 1,000 cash or the equivalent thereof in copper coins is a fair and reasonable exchange may be gathered from their present depreciated value. At places so remote as Chungking, Shanghai, Nanking, Changte Fu and Peking a dollar could recently purchase 1,070-1080, 1,150, 1,118, 900 and 1,130-1,150 cash respectively, or an average of about 1,077 and there is no reason why with proper restrictions, they should not appreciate in value to about 1,000 when at their first introduction about 880 cash or 88 10-cash coins went to the dollar. Indeed, on the first issue of these copper coins from the Canton mint their relation to silver was clearly stated. What is now known as the 10-cash coin was named "1 cent," and it bore an inscription in Chinese that 100 were the equivalent of $1. This coin was necessarily abandoned when the other mints began to pour out their 10-cash pieces. It may be said that the trade of China is carried on in silver, but the bed rock of retail trade on which wholesale trade rests is cash, and it is exceedingly important that silver and copper should be placed on a footing of exact relationship. Possibly the new issue by the Tientsin Mint of taels, which are preferred by Northern Chinese to dollars as was pointed out in a recent article, may signify the beginning of an attempt to reduce the currency system to something like uniformity, but it will take many more than 40,000 to effect any appreciable result.

JAPAN'S TRADE PROSPECTS.

(17th December.)

Trade depression in Japan still continues to handicap the exporting firms in Japan and the old inclination to plunge headlong into impossible enterprises has practically disappeared because there is nobody willing to risk their money in doubtful undertakings. The lesson taught by the numerous bank failures and the exigencies which have had to be adopted by manufacturing firms in order to ward off disaster have been taken to heart. The craze for speculation in all manner of wild-cat schemes has gone. The long list of new ventures which company promoters were planning to foist on unsophisticated investors is no longer a noteworthy feature in the commercial columns of the Japanese papers. There is a sobriety of tone and caution exhibited in dealing with trade affairs which is far more worthy of a business community than the old false thrill of exultation which ran through the writings of those interested in commerce. Indeed the caution is on the verge of being excessive, a very natural result, doubtless, after the unfortunate experiences of those who believed that faith alone was sufficient to establish Japan as the commercial centre of the Far East. All that can be said of the present financial condition, according to one writer, is that despite reactions it is moving forward although very slowly. The author of "Commercial Notes" in the *Kobe Herald* states that: "Financiers and business men are exercising the utmost caution, lest a return of business activity should be followed by another period of terrible depression. Owing to the approach of the end of the year this inactivity is likely to become more marked. In view of the great efforts on the part of the Government to stimulate the demand for bonds, the prices of bonds are gradually rising, both here and abroad, but exchange business is not very brisk." It was expected that when news of the American-Japanese Agreement was published there would be an immediate advance in ordinary Japanese stocks, but the *entente* was apparently a foregone conclusion and with the exception of Government bonds which came into increased favour abroad the Agreement did nothing to improve matters. It deserves attention that French capitalists more than others are now showing eagerness to acquire Japanese bonds and shares. In this connection, the *Chugai Shogyo* states that the Société Generale, which has very large deposits, has encouraged its clients to invest their funds in Japanese bonds and shares. For this condition, however, there is another cause. Many French capitalists who having been investing funds in Germany have become dissatisfied with German investments for some reason or other, and are inclined to favour Japanese bonds and shares. If this attitude of French capitalists should continue, the introduction of French funds into Japan will be vastly facilitated, the enormous wealth of the Republic being well known. As might be expected the increased demand for Japanese bonds abroad has, favourably affected the market in Japan and prices show an upward tendency. During the past month, the export of Japanese bonds to England alone reached about £200,000, and a number of large orders have been received from France and America. The money market in Kobe and Osaka continues easy, and there is not likely to be any change until after the New Year. The fact that some companies have had to write down their capital is taken as an indication that Japanese investors are proceeding warily towards the path of prosperity. It is not very satisfactory, however, to note that a concern such as the Imperial Petroleum Company has had to be wound up. Last year the Imperial Petroleum Company, which was established with a capital of Y1,000,000, in 1906, decreased its capital to Y600,000. Owing to some pecuniary and other difficulties, it has done little or no business during the past year and the result is that at a general meeting held on the 4th it was decided to wind up the company. With regard to Japan's trade with China a quietly-worded paragraph affords some clue to the method which Japanese merchants are adopting to recover their position. Our Kobe contemporary observes:—"It is very long since the country's trade with China entered a dull stage, owing in the first place to the boycott set up in South China, and the fall of silver. Finding it disadvantageous to carry on transactions with Chinese merchants in Japan alone, the Japanese marine products merchants have made efforts to start a direct export business. They asked the Mitsui Bussan Kaisha for assistance, and the Kaisha agreed to let its branch at Hongkong deal with their goods. They propose to send their first consignment by the *Wakasa Maru* on the 9th. Besides, Mr. Adachi and Mr. Ito, marine products exporters at Yokohama, and Mr. Kobayashi, a drug exporter there, have tried direct export, entering into a contract with the Onishi Shoten at Hongkong. The results, so far, are said to have been very good." We do not refer to the yarn trade which is a thing apart, but it is satisfactory to note that Japanese spinners are seriously contemplating the abandonment of the lottery system in Shanghai. The dockyards have also been experiencing the effects of the dullness, following the "boom" in shipping and we learn from the *Nichi Nichi* that, owing to the inactivity of the shipbuilding industry, the Kawasaki Dockyard continues to suffer losses, and there is a proposal among the Directors of the Company to sell the yard to the Government, taking advantage of relations with Baron Goto, Minister of Communications. It is rumoured that the Company has already concluded the necessary negotiations with the Government and is now considering certain steps. The message adds that the report is unreliable as such rumours are always current prior to the opening of the Diet. Whether the report is trustworthy or not the fact that it is considered worthy of being published shows how hard pushed the shipping industry and the trades dependant upon its prosperity are at the present moment. At the same time it is significant that the Mitsu Bishi Kaisha have just opened their new 12,000 ton floating dock at Kobe. One fact in connection with the depression in shipping is noteworthy. We quoted from a Japanese paper the other day a list showing the number of Japanese steamers which are laid up at present. Leaving out the vessels given as undergoing repairs or examination, they numbered 16, with a total tonnage of 44,258. The *Kobe Herald* now shows that while the details given in the table are quite correct, they convey an impression which is entirely misleading. At least six of the ships, for instance, are more than twenty-two years old—one is 30 and another 30—and none of these is worth working. A seventh vessel belongs to the Government, and several of the others are laid up for reasons quite unconnected with the dullness of the shipping business. Foreign investors are looking more and more to the commercial progress of the country and their faith in the future is manifested by their readiness to finance established concerns. Recently, several foreign engineers investigated the condition of the Nagoya Electric Light Company, in connection with a proposed foreign loan. As a result, all the terms of the loan have been settled, with the exception of the time of repayment, which will be arranged when Mr. Finch, who is acting as intermediary reaches Nagoya in a day or two. The contract, will then be signed. The amount of the loan is to be 1,500,000 yen and the rate of interest 6 per cent. The net amount to be received by the company is 90 yen per 100 yen. When the commission is taken into consideration the rate of interest works out at 6.6 per cent. per annum. The outlook on the whole for next year is decidedly better than it was at the corresponding date last year and as the microbe of speculation has been largely eliminated there is every chance for legitimate trade to succeed.

BREAKING THE FETTERS.

Significant seems to be the appropriate term to apply to the expression used by His Excellency the Governor at yesterday's meeting of the Legislative Council when speaking on the Tramway Bill. His Excellency said: "As this is a private bill and has been much altered since it passed its second reading all members of the Council will be able to vote upon it entirely unfettered, and to give their own personal opinion as to whether or not it should be carried through." As most of the unofficial members are unfettered in so far as the recording of their votes is concerned, it can only be assumed that the remark refers to the votes given by the officials. Of course we all know that the official elements have to side with the Government, and when the unofficials are recalcitrant to swamp them with their preponderating voting power, particularly in matters finance, but we wonder how often an official is found sufficiently daring to express an opinion opposite to the declared views of His Excellency the Governor and the Colonial Secretary? We might safely say that a *vox populi* does not exist in Hongkong especially after what has happened in connection with the Bill for the amendment of the Magistrates Ordinance. In the discussion on this Bill the question arose as to the expediency of giving the Governor-in-Council power to threaten with a loaded gun those members of the community who fail to spit circumspectly. That portion of the Bill is obviously directed against the Chinese although the Colonial Secretary holds that Indians are quite as bad offenders. If there was ever a question where there was likely to be diversity of opinion as to the advisability of allowing the Governor-in-Council power to determine when regulations should be framed with the object of eradicating what is a filthy, but in the case of many Chinese a perfectly unconscious, habit, and where the officials might be allowed a free hand this was one of them. The member representing the Chamber of Commerce—who at a previous session explicitly stated that he was not representing the views of the Chamber when upholding the proposal to penalise offenders who expectorated at large—shook himself clear of his colleagues and joined forces with the Governor's view. The remainder of the unofficials voted solidly against the amendment moved by Dr. Ho Kai that this part of the Bill be struck out altogether and made the subject of distinct legislation afterwards. Not one of the official members could see any reason to support the views of men like Mr. Slade, Mr. Gresson, Mr. Pollock, Mr. Wei Yuk and Dr. Ho Kai who are brought into direct contact with the Chinese daily. Was it a coincidence that they all saw the matter in the same light as the Governor and the Colonial Secretary? Had the Captain Superintendent of Police and the Registrar General nothing to advance against the Government proposal? Or were they, so to speak, fettered and tongue-tied? Seeing that the officials have been plainly informed that in voting on the Tramway Bill they are to consider themselves free agents might it not be well if the Governor in future explained to the Council generally when the officials had been instructed to vote with the Government and when the fetters were temporarily removed? Such a course would save a great expenditure of time, thought, and vocal energy. If the unofficials knew in advance that despite all their burning of the midnight oil, all their oratory and arguments, they were bound to be outvoted because the officials had been brought to heel and ordered to obey instructions, then the business of the Council could be transacted in a few minutes. What can be the feelings of the official members, however, when they realise that their services are only required as supers in a parliquinade? The position may be flattering to the vacuous puppet; it can only be exasperating to the brainy man, unless of course he is gifted with the saving grace of humour, in which case it is better than a farce.

His Grace Archbishop Kelly of Sydney, who is returning to Australia from the recent Eucharistic Congress in London, paid a visit to St. Joseph's College in the forenoon last Monday. Master Peter Proyost read an address of welcome on behalf of the pupils. His Grace replied in a speech of some length in which he sought to inculcate the principles of devotion to duty and Christian virtue into the minds of the young people. Concluding an inspection of the College which he greatly admired, His Grace proceeded to visit the Italian Convent, and was shown through the class rooms where the girls were at study at the time Archbishop Kelly called. The reverend gentleman was greatly interested with the work of the Chinese girls, and having questioned the Rev. Mother on the admission and up-bringing of her numerous charges, Archbishop Kelly closely examined the beautiful specimens of the little girls' needlework and embroidery. To the elder girls he delivered an address which appealed to his audience. He went over both the buildings, concluding his visit by an inspection of the dwellings' dormitory. His Grace complimented Mother Martinola on the excellent work conducted in the Convent and, after pronouncing his benediction and giving expression to his pious hope that the continuance of that good work be left to make itself felt on the *Fukien* as the *French Mission*.

Question of Domicile.

IMPORTANT DECISION ON THE POINT.

"NOT TOO CHINAMEN DOMICILED IN HONGKONG."

The important point, which was raised the other day, as to whether a man, not being a resident, nor having a place of business in the Colony, could be adjudged a bankrupt in Hongkong, was decided by Sir Francis Piggott (Chief Justice) in the Supreme Court, last Monday.

His Lordship, in solving the point, said:—The question raised in this case which concern the bankruptcy jurisdiction of this cour over foreigners are of the utmost importance. I have hinted at thim on one or two occasions but this is the fist one which they have given rise to serious argument and I shall deal with the matter as fully as possible because a larger proportion of the trade of the Colony is done with Chinamn carrying on business here, and in nine-tenths of the bankruptcy petitions which come before the Court the debtor is a Chinaman, and, therefore, the fundamental principles on which English bankpuptcy jurisdiction is based are involved in almost every case in which I have to deal. The importance of the question arises from the fact that where a Chinaman trades as so many of them do in other parts of the East as well as Hongkong it is almost impossible to localise the effect of abankruptcy in this colony. . . . . I do not thini there can be much dispute as to the facts except as to one point. In view of the law which I am going to lay down in this judgment the point is not really of first importance because he is a Chinaman and I do not see much evidence that he ever traded generally though he appears to have incurred debts in the Odony. It is however advisable that I should express an opinion on the point. Was the debtor a resident in Hongkong, who went down to Annam to buy cinnamon which he then brought up to the Colony to dispose of, or was he a resident in Annam who bought cinnamon there and brought it up to the Colony to dispose of? I am of opinion that the latter are the true facts; I think it probable that he had done this on previous occasions but I do not think that is material.

Having dealt with the general law his Lordship considered the facts of the case and in doing so said—The debtor certainly was not domiciled in the Colony and as I have said on a previous occasion I do not suppose there are 100 Chinamen in the Colony who are domiciled here, as the larger number of those who reside here all desire and intend to return to China whenever they have made enough money or when commercial adversity compels them.

On the question of residence his Lordship held that the debtor's occupation of the cubicle was temporary, that it was only to last till the business for which he came to the Colony was concluded, and he found great difficulty in seeing how a residence, which was immediately temporary, could at the same time be described as an "ordinary." Continuing, his Lordship said—The important question is: Was this a "place of business" in the Colony? What is required is not merely carrying on business but a place of business, which means a place where the debtor does business. Coming now more closely to the facts of this case one point is quite clear—if a person merely employs a commission agent consigning his goods to him for sale, that does not make the commission agent's premises his client's place of business. It is also clear that the cubicle was not a place of business *per se*. The evidence is very slender as to business transacted there; if there had been many transactions, in fact any business done there, the owner of the house would certainly have given much more evidence of people coming there. The only place of business which the debtor could have had were the premises of the Kwang Mo, where the clients met him and concluded their bargains.

The vital point to consider therefore is this—Must the place of business belong or be under the control of the debtor? On this point I am far from clear. The key to the subject is that remark of Lord Justice Brett *in re* Becquard: the extension of the bankruptcy jurisdiction to foreigners is made on account of the "hold" they have on the country, and the question to be answered in each case of doubt is: "Has the debtor in question a 'hold' on the country?" A "hold on the country" means, I imagine, something which is visible to other persons who trade in the country which induces them to give the debtor credit . . . . . What I think is the meaning of the phrase "hold on the country" is that it is such a position which will induce people by reason of it to give a person credit. It seems to me that if a man is doing business such as concluding bargains for the sale of his goods at a place where he may be seen doing it then others may not unreasonably suppose that he has business to do and that is the place where he does it and on the strength of that people may give him credit. If they do then that place becomes for the purpose of bankruptcy law his "place of business." This seems to be a reasonable distinction to draw between the case where a man sends goods to be sold on commission leaving the business entirely in the hands of the commission agent and one who intermeddles in the eyes of the business world with the making of the bargains. It is therefore the fact that there are other creditors, which brings the case within the purview of the bankruptcy jurisdiction of the court; whether they can justify their claims is another matter with which I have not now to deal. I am therefore of opinion that this court has jurisdiction to entertain this petition and that the opposition must be rejected. In view of the uncertainty of this question which has been raised I do not reject it with costs.

The Receiving Order was granted.

THE DECLINE OF SILVER.

EFFECT OF DECLINE ON TRADE.

The decline in silver, which was quoted yesterday (3rd inst.) at 22d. per oz., according to London advices, is seriously affecting the trade with China, says the *Japan Chronicle*. Japanese merchants engaged in the trade are becoming seriously alarmed. A vernacular contemporary observes that the low price of silver has caused a congestion of goods on the market in China, and Chinese merchants in Kobe are hesitating to purchase stocks, business being almost at a standstill. At the present period of the year in China, while labourers are returning from the North and the new year is rapidly approaching, sales of goods usually increase, but with silver at its present rate, the shipment of Japanese goods shows no profit, so that the trade with China is almost at a standstill.

The yarn market has further declined. The closing quotations on the Osaka Yarn Exchange on the 1st instant as compared with the closing rates on the 28th ultimo, were as follows:—

	Dec. 1.	Nov. 28.
December delivery	Y104.45	Y106.60
January	105.00	106.95
February	105.00	—

The above are the lowest figures reached for some time past.

Bank Compradore's Bankruptcy.

WEI LONG SHAN'S CASE.

APPLICATION TO RESCIND RECEIVING ORDER.

In the Bankruptcy Jurisdiction Court, last Monday forenoon, an application was made to the Chief Justice to rescind a Receiving Order in the matter of Wei Long Shan *ex parte* Yuen Hing.

Mr. John Hastings appeared on behalf of the Bank of Taiwan, Ltd. (judgment creditors). Mr. R. D. Atkinson, of Messrs. Deacon, Looker and Deacon, represented the petitioning creditor, on whose petition the Receiving Order was made. Mr. R. L. Dennys was for the debtor.

Mr. Hastings said that the whole question was that of domicile. The Receiving Order was made on the 5th November, and he asked that it be rescinded and the petition be dismissed with costs. The debtor, he continued, was some years ago assistant compradore of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank. Early in 1905 he got into difficulties. The Bank of Taiwan sued him and got judgment for $20,000 and costs. The debtor then absconded and stayed away for three years.

Mr. Dennys said that the debtor did not abscond.

Mr. Hastings—Whether he absconded or not, he fled or left the Colony. The debtor returned to the Colony some time last September to be served with the petition. Mr. Hastings then gave his grounds for asking for the rescinding, as under:—

(1)—That the debtor was not domiciled in this Colony at the date of the presentation of the petition and that the Court had no jurisdiction to make a Receiving Order against him.

(2)—That the debtor has committed no act of bankruptcy on which a petition could be founded.

(3)—That after payment of the costs of the proceedings there will be no substantial assets for division among the creditors.

(4)—That the petitioning creditor is in collusion with the debtor and that these proceedings are an abuse of the process of this honourable Court.

Mr. Hastings then went on. He said the first point to be considered was what was debtor's domicile of origin. His friend (Mr. Dennys) had raised the point, that because he was born in Hongkong he was domiciled here. That was not so. A child born in Hongkong must take his father's domicile. The next point was: "Did he ever require a Hongkong domicile?" He admitted that he had family houses in Canton and Macao, and Mr. Hastings submitted that debtor did not want to be domiciled here. Assuming that he was domiciled he abandoned it when he left the Colony in 1905. What debtor wanted the Court to do was an abuse. His debts amounted to $243,000. Debtor said that his friends subscribed $2,000 among themselves, which was given to him and which he handed in to the Official Receiver. The debtor had the audacity then to come and ask to be "white-washed" and to be permitted to do business here again. What he had to pay his debts amounted exactly to 1½d. on the pound. Mr. Hastings submitted that there were no merits in his favour, and called for the petition to be dismissed, adding that because a man was born in a place it did not give him the domicile.

The Chief Justice—It alters the place of jurisdiction.

Mr. Hastings—The mere fact that he lived here does not entitle him to domicile. If a Frenchman went to London with his wife to start a business and they had a child, that does not give the child a domicile. The child would take his father's domicile.

Mr. Atkinson objected to the whole proceedings. Firstly, he took objection to the manner in which the application was brought, and said it should have been an appeal. Mr. Hastings, he said, was asking to reverse an order already made. His second objection was that the petition should not have been brought until the debtor's conduct had been inquired into—until his public examination had been concluded. It was necessary for the Taiwan Bank, in making this petition, to show whether some onus would be imposed on them, or whether something would be taken from them. How could they recover anything when debtor had only $2,000? Their object, he said, was to get the Receiving Order reversed, then put the debtor into gaol, and then "squeeze" his brothers to pay.

The Chief Justice—The debtor is not here.

Mr. Hastings—He won't be long here.

The Chief Justice—The bank has certain rights.

Mr. Atkinson returned that they had got judgment three years ago and had done nothing since.

The Chief Justice, in reply, said that there was much difficulty in enforcing a British judgment in China. The sooner that difficulty was removed the better.

Mr. Atkinson—But there is the British Consul there to help?

The Chief Justice said he thought the act of bankruptcy was good and that debtor was domiciled.

Mr. Dennys (for the debtor) gave the grounds mentioned above, to rescind the Receiving Order. He asked his Lordship to say that the Court had already exercised its discretion in the matter, by granting the Receiving Order, and he thought that the $2,000 debtor had handed in was a fair sum, and the Court could not go behind the Receiving Order so granted. With regard to the first ground of the motion, if his friend (Mr. Hastings) succeeded in getting his Lordship to hold that debtor was not domiciled in the Colony it would be quite right for the Court to rescind the Order, but as the question of $2,000 had already been considered the Court could not go back on it.

In support of the domicile question, Mr. Hastings read parts of debtor's declaration, as given below: "I am the son of the late Wei Kwong, who for many years was compradore in Hongkong to the Chartered Mercantile Bank of India, London and China (as it was then called). Wei Kwong died in Hongkong in the year 1878 or thereabouts, leaving a large amount of leasehold property in Hongkong. He left behind him a widow (in Chinese called *Tin Fong*) name Wei Ng Shi, by whom he had three children, namely, Wei Wah Cheong, Wei Ah Tsat and Wei Ah Shap. The said Wei Wah Cheong is still living in Hongkong, but the said Wei Ah Tsat and Wei Ah Shap died several years ago. Wei Kwong, while he was alive, had four concubines.

"I am the son of Wei Kwong, by his first concubine, Wei Fung Shi. I was born in Hongkong, and educated in the Hongkong Government Central School, which afterwards was converted into the present Queen's College. After leaving school I went to Shanghai for about three years and then returned to Hongkong where I married a Chinese lady, who was a British subject, she having been born in Hongkong. I subsequently returned to Shanghai where I remained for about one year when I heard of my father's death and I then returned to Hongkong.

"For little more than two years after my return to Hongkong in 1885, I was without any regular employment, but I assisted in collecting rents of property forming part of my late father's estate, and in 1885 joined the Eastern Extension and Great Northern Telegraph Companies in Hongkong as their compradore. In the year 1888, while acting as such compradore, I became assistant compradore to the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank.

"I have always regarded Hongkong as my home, and before I left for Canton in April, 1905, I was living with my family in a European built house in Caine Road . . . . . I was the owner of leasehold property valued at about $420,000 in Hongkong and I have never intended to abandon the domicile I obtained by reason of my birth in the British Colony of Hongkong."

Continuing, Mr. Dennys stated that the debtor never intended to relinquish his domicile, and added that he was a J. P. in this Colony, and his name was still on the list.

Mr. Hastings—An absconding debtor? (Laughter)

Mr. Dennys—He is not.

The Chief Justice observed that all natives, meaning Chinese and Indians, have always the desire to return to their native land.

Mr. Dennys—The same desire is in the Englishman also.

The Chief Justice—And Scotsmen, too.

Mr. Dennys said that he was domiciled in England although he had been fourteen years in the Colony. He had never claimed to be an American citizen. The debtor, he said, was domiciled in the Colony and he wanted it.

At this stage Mr. Dennys handed to the Court a document, purporting to be a certificate from the Governor of Hongkong and dated back many years, in which it was stated that debtor was born in the Colony.

After perusing the document, the Chief Justice summed it up as a "curious and dangerous document."

Mr. Dennys remarked that he had seen still fuonier certificates when he was Crown Solicitor. One certificate stated that the applicant's father was Dutch, his mother Chinese, and he was a Britisher, and the document signed by the American Consul!

After further discussion, his Lordship reserved his decision on the point.

"SHINANO MARU" BUFFETTED.

JAPANESE LINER IN A GALE.

With her master, Capt. K. Kawara, seriously ill, and bringing an account of severe encounter with gales, the Nippon Yusen Kaisha line steamship *Shinano Maru* reached port at 7 o'clock last night, reports the *Seattle Post* of 13th ult. Passenger and freight business on the *Shinano* was the smallest in many months. Other than a shipment of 700 bales of raw silk no important freight was brought to the Sound.

Capt. Kawara was injured by being thrown against a hatch covering during a heavy blow shortly after leaving Yokohama. It is feared that ribs have been broken, and, affected by a severe cold, the possibilities of pneumonia are being considered. He was kept in his room practically all of the voyage, but upon reaching Cape Flattery, early yesterday morning, thick weather brought him to the bridge to aid in navigating the ship. The exposure proved unfavourable, leaving the patient in a rather serious condition upon arrival here.

The *Shinano Maru* is the second arrival in Seattle from the Orient since the inauguration, November 1, of the interstate commerce ruling affecting tariff on overseas freight. With both ships the cargoes have been but a minor fraction of the capacity. The situation strongly supports the contention of many informed shippers that with the carrying out of the new rate ruling, ocean trade would be sadly demoralized.

Fifty-six passengers were landed in Seattle from the *Shinano Maru*. The list included but nine cabin passengers.

A GRUESOME CEREMONY.

CREMATION OF THE BONES OF 1,031 PERSONS.

Tongkah, 27th Nov.

A new road, branching off the terminus of the principal street of Tongkah, has just been opened to traffic. A great many years ago a bit of land, along this road, was used as a burial ground and, as it was recently required by the public for other purposes, the bones were dug up, and the gruesome ceremony of cremating them was performed last Faiday, and witnessed by hundreds of people, mostly women.

On the brow of a hillock, about half-a-mile from Tongkah town, an attap shed, about 30 feet long, 20 feet wide and 15 feet high, was erected, on the floor of which firewood soaked with kerosine oil, was strewn. On the top of this were piled boxes upon boxes—tea boxes, silk boxes, cement casks, etc.—containing human bones. There were over a hundred boxes, and the excavators' account showed that they had dug up the bones of 1,031 persons. On the ground around these firewood was stacked.

In front of the huge pile square tables were placed side by side, on which were spread Siamese and Chinese viands of every description, all the fruits procurable at this season of the year, and various kinds of wines and spirits. At 11 o'clock the priests arrived—two Chinese and some forty Siamese—who, after some preliminary preparations, started chanting prayers on either side of the tables, whilst sitting, standing or lounging, near by, were Siamese and Chinese women, old and young, with a sprinkling of men, each holding a small packet in his or her hand containing a pair of red candles, a roll of joss sticks and a pad of joss paper. Some attended for the purpose of acquiring "merit" (*Thamboon*); some were present because they were not quite sure whether they had not some remote ancestor whose bones were there; but not one present could say for certain that, included in the lot, were the bones of his or her ancestor; the cemetery having been used so very long ago.

By 3 o'clock the priests had finished their prayers, and then huge piles of joss paper and sticks were burnt and crackers fired, after which the food, etc. were distributed among the beggars, who, clustering in small groups lazily smoking cigars or cigarette ends, had been waiting since the morning, like flocks of vultures over the body of a dead buffalo, which was being skinned by a couple of men, and which they dared not, as yet, approach.

A little after 4 o'clock, the huge pile was fired, and, assisted by the wind, the attaps, poles, planks, firewood and boxes were consumed in one big blaze. The heat was intense, and for a while the blue sky was curtained from view by the smoke, but it soon cleared; and what remained of 1,031 persons—infants and babies, boys and girls, lads and lasses, men and women, young or old, pretty or ugly—were reduced to ashes. The ashes were collected in boxes the next morning by a couple of Chinese coolies and will be interred in a tomb.

The expenses in connection with the ceremony were paid out of private subscriptions raised by one of the "Kumnan," or headmen of the Chinese community.—*Straits Echo*.

Swatow Opium Restrictions.

REPORTED REMOVAL.

NO OFFICIAL PROCLAMATION ISSUED.

In reference to the enforcement of the monopolistic regulations, relating to opium, within Swatow and the outlying prefectures, with the resultant practical stoppage in the export of opium from Hongkong to the Coast ports, unimpeachable information reaches us at a late hour last Saturday afternoon, that the restrictive regulations are reported to have been removed. This desired result must be traced to the prompt representations by the British Consul-General at Canton on behalf of the opium merchants in Hongkong. We may take it that the removal of the restrictions is the first step towards the abrogation of the regulations, since no official proclamation of the cancelment of the vexatious regulations has yet been issued. Hongkong merchants are again to be congratulated on their initiative in securing adequate protection to British trade in the commodity with the Coast ports.

TWO JAPANESE STEAMERS WRECKED.

HUNDREDS OF LIVES LOST.

A Chefoo dispatch to the *Asahi* dated November 30th says:—"*The Nagata-maru No. 8*, of which nothing had been heard since her departure from Tairen, has been wrecked off Shukwanshu, about 20 miles east of Chefoo. The steamer was practically smashed to pieces by the force of the storm which was encountered. Only one Chinese out of all those on board is known to have survived, after a miraculous escape, he having been washed up on shore. The remainder of those on board appear to have been drowned; of the 70 passengers only three were Japanese.

According to the story told by this survivor, the vessel's engines were disabled during a heavy storm when approaching Chefoo at 4 o'clock on the morning of the 24th ult., and the steamer was carried on to the rocks, where she was wrecked. Neither the steamer nor the cargo was insured.

"The *Ginsei-maru*, which had left Antung, has also, it is ascertained, been wrecked off Wei-hai-wei, and all the passengers, 500 Chinese, as well as the crew, appear to have gone down with the steamer, since no tidings have been received of any survivors. This vessel was insured, but not the cargo. The *Nagata-maru* was a steamer of 360 tons and the *Ginsei-maru* 487 tons."

CRICKET.

MOSLEM RECREATION CLUB v. LUSITANO RECREATION CLUB.

The return match between the above teams took place on Sunday last and ended in a win for the M. R. C.

Scores:—

M. R. C.

V. Abbass, c & b Cordeiro	0
P. Soonderam, run out	4
A. G. Suffiad, run out	18
M. B. Suffiad, c Roza, b A. G. Britto	14
J. M. Dyer c Corveth, b Cordeiro	6
S. E. Ismail, c & b Cordeiro	2
H. Harteam, b Britto	7
A. A. Abbass c Corveth, b Pereira	2
A. Kader, c Barros, b Pereira	1
S. Harteam, b Cordeiro	13
A. M. Suffiad, not out	4
Extras	8
Total	79

L. R. C.

P. da Roza c Y. Abbass b A. A. Abbass	9
F. H. Hyndmanc M. B. Suffiad b A. A. Abbass	1
L. G. Cordeiro c & b. A. A. Abbass	0
R. A. Carvalho c A. Kader b M. B. Suffiad	9
J. Corveth run out	4
A. V. Barros b A. A. Abbass	3
A. G. Britto b M. B. Suffiad	0
P. A. Yvanovich c & b A. A. Abbass	0
T. Pereira b A. A. Abbass	1
F. X. Britto c & b M. B. Suffiad	2
A. J. V. Ribeiro not out	7
Extras	0
Total	36

UNEMPLOYMENT IN JAPAN.

PITIFUL PLIGHT OF OPERATIVES.

Referring to the factory operatives thrown out of employment in consequence of the prevailing trade depression, the *Osaka Asahi* points out that cotton-spinning companies in this country, numbering 39 in all, with a capital aggregating ¥86,500,000 and having 1,600,000 spindles among them, are reduced to a very trying position on account of the depression of trade with China and at home. The total number of operatives employed at spinning mills in January last was 16,671 males and 68,592 females. At the end of June the number had been reduced by about 14,900. The number was further reduced by the end of October last, when male operatives numbered 14,825 and female operatives 54,893. The rate of wages, however, remained almost unchanged, the males being paid between 40 and 50 sen each per day and the females between 24 and 30 sen on an average, a little higher than last spring. Meanwhile thousands of discharged operatives seeking employment do not know where to turn for a living. The pruning-knife of dismissal has not only been applied to spinning operatives, but also to those engaged in shipbuilding, who have suffered severely. A similar fate has also overtaken those employed in the manufacture of matches and knitted goods, in dyeing, weaving, making hemp-rope, and other manufacturing industries. It is very hard for so large a number of poor operatives to be thrown out of employment now that the winter is coming on. Fortunately, society is not so cruel as might be supposed. Trained operatives and even unskilled labourers are finding employment in various directions. Government works are attracting the unemployed to a large extent, and employment is being found at the Military and Naval Arsenals, the Printing Bureau, the Imperial Mint, and the tobacco factories. While many Government works have been postponed, certain parts must be carried out at once. For instance, large tobacco factories are being built in Tokyo and Osaka, and the construction of these is providing employment. Moreover, the latter prefer Government works to private factories, as they feel more secure at the former. The extension of the northern faciory of the Osaka Tobacco Works has been completed, and the announcement calling for over 300 workers was quickly responded to by operatives recently thrown out of employment. The wages paid at the tobacco factory are nearly the same as at cotton-spinning mills, but when two months have elapsed during which the workers will learn the business payment is to be made by piece instead of by time.—*Japan Chronicle*.

RACING GOSSIP.

INTERESTING CHAT BY OUR OWN CONTRIBUTOR.

Now that the subscription griffins have arrived, or most of them, the duty falls upon me of keeping readers of the *Hongkong Telegraph* posted on all matters racing.

It was brought to my notice the other day that some people had come to the conclusion that "the ponies were the best ever landed in the Colony." It was rather premature at the time to advance such an opinion, but that is only by the way. There are others, however, whose opinions vary. "The ponies," one expert was heard to remark, "are of the ordinary stamp, but you can scarcely say that they are the best." The expert went on to say that, as the time test was not called for at Shanghai, the ponies only being put to a canter for the inspection of the judges before shipment, it was impossible to tell how they would shape when they are half-trained. Therefore, this year's carnival should be a very good event, so far as surprises are concerned.

I entirely agree with the expert. Unlike previous years, when all the ponies were supposed to do the mile in certain time; when some were able to "walk" the distance, metaphorically speaking, in no time; when others just managed to scrape through, there were whispers of discontent among drawers of the latter class of "moke." When I say "feeling of discontent" I do not mean it in the sense many would take it but the more fortunate drawers were envied, and the unfortunate ones down-hearted.

There can be no "discontent" this year. The ponies were shipped *en masse*. Their speed is only known to the animals themselves, and there are times when the animals, knowing their speed, refuse to give their owners the advantage of it. But that mostly depends on who is in the pigskin. The drawings this year were well carried out, and drawers can now only depend on Luck—that frivolous creature—on whether their ponies will bring them honours when the time arrives.

Training has commenced in dead earnest now. Several of the subs have been given the half-mile canter and three-quarter spins. So far none have appeared to show out above the average griffin, although a few exhibit signs of shaping well with more hard work.

One thing in favour of the bunch is that they have not been galloped to death either at the Northern settlement or here. Consequently some of the fat or backward ones may, in time, develop into flyers. At this stage nobody can say which is the best.

Mr. H. A. Seth is believed to have drawn a good one, while Mr. Humphreys' big grey is believed to possess good points. He is a well-shaped pony. The Wayfoong Mess, as usual, have drawn a funny-looking specimen. He is very goose rumped, and as far as I have seen, he has a rooted disinclination for the course. Mr. C. H. Ross was also lucky enough to "pull" a decent one.

The old class ponies have not yet arrived. They are expected about Christmas-time with the Derby ponies.

As to the prospects of the coming races I can say, although the time is yet far off, that they are exceedingly rosy, and all sporting men hope they will remain so.

RIDING BOY.

ROBBERY AT CHUEN-WAN.

ARREST OF FOUR SUSPECTS.

Credit must be given to Detective-Sergeant Wildes, of the Water Police Station, who succeeded in arresting four men on suspicion of having taken part in an armed robbery at Chuen-wan at the beginning of this month.

Chuen-wan is a village on the mainland situate not far away from Seeton and a few hours' steam from Hongkong. The reader will remember that on the evening of the first Sunday of this month a gang of about fourteen men forced an entry into a shop (No. 20) by pulling down the back door. Five of the men were armed, some carrying revolvers and some choppers, two held lighted torches, and the remainder were there to collect the booty while the others stood guard, and were empty-handed. The shop people numbered about four men in all, and they were driven into a corner and told to keep still, otherwise they would be all slaughtered. Of course the *fokis* obeyed, and while four men stood over them, swinging their weapons about threateningly, the others ransacked the premises collecting a large quantity of clothing, stores, and a sum of money, altogether totalling about $90. They then made away with the booty. Almost at the same time nine other hooligans, who no doubt belonged to the original gang, were playing havoc with another shop (No. 30) a little distance down the road. They were armed with similar weapons and carried out their nefarious work in precisely the same manner as above stated. After terrorizing the shop men they made good their escape with clothing, jewellery and money to the value of $150.

As we have stated before, four suspects have been arrested, the Police believing that they were connected with the robbery. They were arraigned in the Police Court last Saturday morning and the case was remanded for a week.

THE JAPAN-INDIA STEAMSHIP SERVICE.

Japan papers state that the shipping combination that existed between the Japanese, British, American and Italian steamship companies on the Japan-India service came to a close on September 16 by the withdrawal of the Austrian and the Italian steamship companies. As a result of repeated conferences held in London between the delegates of the steamship companies concerned, says a vernacular paper, a new agreement was entered into, the N. Y. K. and the P. & O. Company having agreed to a certain concession as to the pool. The new agreement has a retrospective effect dating back to Sept. 16, when the old agreement terminated. According to the new arrangement the N. Y. K. and the P. & O. Company have to make thirty-six voyages instead of the forty-eight voyages prescribed under the old agreement, while the Austrian Lloyd and the Italian vessels continue to make seventeen voyages on the route.

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS.

OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENT.

Friday, the 25th December, and Saturday, the 26th December, 1908, and Friday, the 1st January, and Saturday, the 2nd January, 1909, will be kept as public holidays in the Colony.

The Police Magistrates' Department is excluded from the operation of the Public Holidays Ordinance, 1873: on Saturday, the 26th day of December, 1908, and Saturday, the 2nd day of January, 1909.

FLOUR RATE TO HONGKONG.

COMPLAINTS OF PUGET SOUND MILLERS.

The *Seattle Post* of Nov. 21 says:—There was an unexpected turn in Oriental rates yesterday, when W. D. Benson, agent for the Transpacific Tariff Bureau, announced that the rate on flour to Hongkong had been reduced from $3.50 to $3 per ton of 2,000 pounds. This change took effect at once, although there was no sailing for the Far East yesterday, except the Nippon Yusen Kaisha liner *Tosa Maru*, whose cargo was not affected.

It is understood that this sudden action was taken at the request of Puget sound millers who have been complaining of poor business in the Orient. The suspicions of the millers have been aroused by the heavy shipments of flour from Portland while the movement of this commodity from Puget sound has been extremely light for months.

That the millers suspect that their competitors on the Columbia river are getting some unfair advantage is an open secret. What this is no one will state positively, but it has been intimated that rates on flour are being secretly cut from Portland. No direct charges of this nature have been laid before the Transpacific Tariff Bureau, but by innuendo the assertion has been made.

While it is known that the reduction was made to afford Puget sound millers an even break, another expected result is to head off the competition of tramp tonnage which is likely to enter the field at this season. One tramp steamer is now on the Sound loading for Japan and the members of the tariff bureau are anxious to get all the business possible. Cargo has been light for months, and as the Oriental lines have been deprived of overland freight they are closely guarding what local merchandise is offered for transportation.

Under special tariff No. 1, effective October 1, the rates on flour and wheat in sacks to Yokohama, Kobe, Moji and Nagasaki is $3; to Shanghai and Manila, $4; to Hongkong, $3.50, and to Amoy, $4.50. The only change is the reduction of 50 cents in the rate to Hongkong. This schedule applies from Seattle, Tacoma, Everette, Victoria, Vancouver, New Westminster, Astoria and Portland. The lines which are party to the tariff agreement are the Canadian Pacific, Nippon Yusen Kaisha, Portland & Asiatic Steamship Company, China Mutual, Ocean Steamship and Great Northern Steamship companies and Weir steamship lines.

INTERNATIONAL OPIUM CONFERENCE.

AMERICAN DELEGATE INTERVIEWED.

Dr. Hamilton Wright of the United States Commission to the International Opium Conference at Shanghai has already begun an investigation of the opium question in the Philippines and when Bishop Brent, the head of the Commission returns to Manila, it is probable that the two will make a tour of the southern islands for a further and more complete investigation of the subject. Dr. Wright brings the news that the United States government proposes to completely clean its own hands in the opium business by enacting a law at the forthcoming session of Congress that will prevent the importation of prepared opium for smoking purposes and the manufacture of smoking opium within the United States.

"At the present time," said Dr. Wright in an interview with a representative of the *Manila Times* on 2nd inst., "we are regularly importing 145,000 pounds of prepared opium into the United States every year and it is estimated that the smugglers get in 62,000 pounds annually. Besides that, 500,000 pounds of gum opium is annually brought in ostensibly for medicinal purposes but we have expert opinion that not nearly that much is needed legitimately. We have been making a very searching investigation during the last year and it is very clear that the use of the drug is constantly increasing. Our lower order of immoral men and women and the negroes in the north are using it in increasing numbers.

"Our plan is to absolutely stop the importation and prohibit the manufacture of prepared opium and by placing the traffic in gum opium brought in for medicinal purposes under rigid laws and the supervision of the Internal Revenue department to check the improper use of the drug."

It is not generally known but it is the fact that a letter written by Bishop Brent to President Roosevelt more than a year ago led to the calling of the conference which will meet at Shanghai on February 1.

Dr. Hamilton Wright is not Hamilton M. Wright who wrote a handbook on the Philippines, but a medical man and scientist of Washington who has given many years of study to the opium question, and scientific questions arising particularly in the tropics and the Orient.

NEW ORDINANCES.

GOVERNOR'S ASSENT.

His Excellency the Governor has given his assent, in the name and on behalf of His Majesty the King, to the following Ordinances passed by the Legislative Council:—An Ordinance to amend The Fire Insurance Companies Ordinance 1908; an Ordinance to amend The Interpretation Ordinance 1897 and to remove an ambiguity in the construction of the same; and an Ordinance to amend The Companies Ordinance 1865.

FIGHT WITH AN EAGLE.

STRANGE STORY FROM THE HOKKAIDO.

An extraordinary occurrence is reported from the Hokkaido by a vernacular paper. On the 19th ultimo, says the report, a youth named Matsuura Tokujiro, aged 19, employed by a merchant in Tokachi province, in the Hokkaido, went into the wood on the instruction of his master to cut timber. According to custom in a district beset by wild animals in the shape of bears and eagles, the youth carried a gun for self-protection. He had just entered the wood when a shadow suddenly appeared above his head, and on glancing up he saw an eagle which was apparently about to attack him. Without hesitation he raised his gun and fired, hitting the bird, which fell heavily to the ground. Under the impression that the eagle was dead the youth ran up to secure it, when suddenly the gigantic bird rose up and made a dash for the youth. Unable to evade the attack and having no time to aim, he used the butt end of his rifle in protecting himself. While doing so the trigger caught in his clothes and the weapon went off, the charge entering the abdomen, and he fell mortally wounded. The report of the gun attracted the attention of the lad's master, who lost no time in proceeding to the spot. The youth was carried home, but succumbed shortly after. What became of the eagle is not mentioned in the report.

An Imperial Rescript is reported to have been issued through the Grand Council dispensing with the customary levee of congratulation on the coming New Year's Day, owing to the national mourning.

Christmas Bazaar.

CHARITY'S CALL TO THE CITY HALL ON MONDAY.

FRENCH CONVENT ANNUAL SALE.

12th inst.

No more deserving charity exists in Hongkong, or in the Far East for that matter, than the institution presided over by the French Sisters at Wanchai known far and wide as the Asile de la Sainte Enfance. It is unnecessary at this time to dwell on the merits of the orphanage which is maintained for the benefit of those Chinese children whose advent has proved unwelcome or who have lost their nearest protectors in their infancy. The fact remains that the orphanage in self-supporting, but the numbers of those cared for at the Asile de la Sainte Enfance are taken into consideration make it a matter of continual worry for the Sisters to keep the establishment out of debt, and at the same time to bring up the children in a self-respecting manner. It is only by the exercise of the strictest economy and by careful management that the charity is enabled to continue its beneficent work. One of the forms in which the French Sisters endeavour to make both ends meet is by the sale of articles which have been fashioned by the deft fingers and trained taste of the orphans themselves, under the guidance of their teachers. During the greater part of the year the children give a portion of their time to the making of these fabrics which do the utmost credit to the institution and to those responsible for the designs. It is usual to hold a bazaar immediately before Christmas at which the varied examples of the skilful needlework of the orphans is displayed for sale, and following past precedents the Bazaar will take place this year, the opening ceremony at the City Hall taking place at 2 o'clock on Monday afternoon. His Excellency Sir Frederick Lugard will take part in the formal proceedings and many well-known ladies in the Colony will take a part in assisting to ensure the success of the function. It need hardly be said that the display this year will be quite on a par with those seen in past years and the hearts of the Sisters should be gladdened when they come at the close to appreciate the generosity of the Hongkong public. Coming as it does on the eve of Christmas, the Bazaar should offer an outlet for those who desire to select suitable presents for their friends at the season of rejoicing, while at the same time they will have the satisfaction of knowing that they are contributing to the welfare of an exceedingly worthy institution. On the principle also that charity covers a multitude of sins, the purchasers of goods which attract their fancy may console their consciences when they dig deep in the family treasury with the reflection that they are helping forward a good cause besides. If the Bazaar is not a complete success it will be through no fault of the Sisters.

THE REGENT.

Among the rules for the conduct of the Regency (a portion of which has already appeared in this column) are the following:—

On the anniversary of his birth every year and on New Year's Day the Regent shall ascend the Wenhua Throne hall to receive congratulatory obeisances.

A special palace shall be built for the Regent in the "Forbidden City."

The Regent shall take up the duty of commanding the Imperial Body Guards.

The Regent shall receive the various Princes and Ministers of the Crown in open audience on behalf of the Emperor; and no one shall be allowed to interview the Regent surreptitiously.

The officials of the third rank and above shall be allowed to be seated when conferring with the Regent in the Tungnuan-Ko (one of the pavilions of the Imperial Palace).—*N. C. D. News.*

CHINESE CURRENCY.

It is reported in a New York cable to the *Japan Advertiser* that an entire plant for the manufacture of banknotes has just been shipped from New York for Peking to fill an order placed by the Chinese Government for a new mint equipped on the most up-to-date American lines. The establishment of the new mint is reported to be preliminary to the reform of the coinage system and the institution of a regular national paper currency to replace the present more or less chaotic methods.

THE CHINA SEA.

IMPORTANT WARNING TO MARINERS.

Messrs. Browne & Co., agents at Moji for the P. & O. Company, inform the *Japan Chronicle* that on the 1st instant the Commander of the P. & O. steamer *Sicilia* wrote to them as follows:—

"For the information of all concerned I beg leave to report to you that yesterday in Lat. 21° 58' N., long. 125° 24' E., we saw a patch of brown discoloured water which looked very much like a shoal. It was not of large extent. As our position was verified at noon it could not have been Socotra Rock, unless that is not properly charted.—O. H. Watkins."

JAPAN.

THE NORTH-CHINA GARRISON.

Tokio, Dec. 8.

The reduction of the Japanese garrison in North China will be begun in the middle of December and will be concluded in the middle of January.

General Hasegawa, Commanding the Japanese garrison in Korea, who, according to recent rumours, was supposed to be about to resign, leaves Tokio to-day for Seoul.

Dr. Sven Hedin will leave Osaka to-morrow *en route* to Europe vid Korea and Siberia.—*N. C. D. News.*

IN reference to the result of the working of cotton-spining companies in and about Osaka for the second half of this year, a Japanese contemporary remarks that it was thought by the suspension of 27½ per cent. of the spindles that the market for yarn could be maintained, but the collapse of the silver market and the inundations in South China, have frustrated the success of the prize ticket scheme, and the yarn market has generally been characterised by depression. The spinners have had a slight relief owing to a decline in the market for raw cotton lately, but the result of the working for the period will be less favourable than that for the preceding half-year. All the companies, however, hope to pay a dividend at the same rate as before, in order to maintain the market for shares. It is expected that the Japan Spinning Company will pay a dividend at the rate of 12.3 per cent., the Fukushima Spinning 16 per cent., the Settsu Spinning 20 per cent., the Osaka Spinning 11, and the Amagasaki 40 per cent.

JAPANESE YARN LOTTERY.

The *Municipal Gazette* says that it is reported that the Mitsui Bussan Kaisha, when approached as a result of the Council's decision published with the minutes of October 21, have informed the Legal Adviser that after careful consideration they are of opinion that since the procedure consists only of the distribution of coupons to purchasers of the yarn gratis, it is not within the category of lotteries. In the desire, however, to do nothing in opposition to the Council's wishes and in deference thereto, the firm has communicated with the Japanese Cotton Spinners' Association on the subject, and since the consensus of opinion in the body is apparently becoming adverse to the system which has been inaugurated, there is stated to be strong probability that it will be discontinued at the end of the year. The Council decides therefore to take no further action in the matter, pending receipt of the Association's reply.—*China Gazette* (Shanghai).

THE CATTLE TRADE.

IMPORTATION INTO THE PHILIPPINES.

Figures covering the importation to the Philippines of live cattle for the past ten years indicate a continued annual increase from the total of 193 head received during 1897, to 43,157 head, valued at $1,055,230, imported during 1908, according to the annual report of the Collector of Customs. This number embraces principally beef cattle, but includes occasional small consignments of breeding and draft animals. Chinese cattle continued to lead in this trade, although the 27,895 head received from that source in 1908 is a reduction of 8,179 head from the number of Chinese cattle imported during 1907, while animals from the French East Indies to the number of 14,574 represent an increase over those received during the previous year of 13,013 head. The change in this trade is the result of the recently increased proportion of diseased animals among those from the China coast, and the consequent restrictions placed upon importations from that source, which has led to larger purchases in the French East Indian market.

HONGKONG JOCKEY CLUB.—

RACE MEETING, 1909.

Following are the events for the Race Meeting, 1909, commencing from the 16th February, which we have received through the courtesy of the Hongkong Jockey Club:—

FIRST DAY.

1.—THE WONG-NEI-CHONG STAKES.—Value $300. Second to receive $100; and third $50. For China ponies, Subscription griffins of this season 1908-1909. Weight for inches as per scale. Jockeys who have never had a winning mount in either Hongkong, Shanghai or Tientsin allowed 5lb. Entrance $10. Half a mile.

2.—THE MAIDEN STAKES.—Value $500. Second to receive $150; and third $75. For China ponies, *bond fide* griffins on date of entry. Weight for inches as per scale. Subscription griffins of this season 1908-1909 allowed 7lb. Entrance $10. Three quarters of a mile.

3.—THE VICTORIA STAKES.—Value $500. Second to receive $150; and third $75. For China ponies. Weight for inches as per scale. *Bond fide* griffins on date of entry allowed 5 lb. Subscription griffins of this season 1908-1909 allowed 10 lb. Entrance $10. One mile.

4.—THE VALLEY STAKES.—A sweepstakes of $10 each with $400 added. Winner to receive 70 per cent.; second 20 per cent.; and third 10 per cent. For China ponies subscription griffins of this season 1908-1909. Weight for inches as per scale. Three quarters of a mile.

5.—THE FOOCHOW CUP.—Value $500. Second to receive $150; and third $75. For China Ponies. Weight for inches as per scale. Ponies who have run at any previous meeting and not won a race and Griffins allowed 5 lbs. Subscription Griffins of this Season 1908-1909 allowed 10 lb. Jockeys who have never had a winning mount in either Hongkong, Shanghai or Tientsin allowed 5 lb. Entrance $10. Two miles.

6.—THE TRIAL PLATE.—Value $500. Second to receive $150; and Third $75. For China Ponies, *bond fide* Griffins on date of entry. Weight for inches as per scale. Subscription Griffins of this Season 1908-1909 allowed 7 lb. Winner of the Maiden Stakes 7 lb. extra. Jockeys who have never had a winning mount in either Hongkong, Shanghai or Tientsin allowed 5 lb. Entrance $10. From the Two Mile Post Once Round and in.

7.—THE GARRISON CUP.—Presented by the Officers of the Garrison. Second to receive $150; and Third $75. For China Ponies, Subscription Griffins of any Season and ponies entered in the Hongkong Griffins Stakes and Tientsin Stakes 1908 Meeting. Weight for inches as per scale. Winners at previous Meetings of one Race 7 lb.; of more than once 14 lb.; at this Meeting 3 lb. extra. Penalties accumulative. Jockeys who have never had a winning mount in either Hongkong, Shanghai or Tientsin allowed 5 lb. Entrance $10. One mile.

8.—THE PROFESSIONAL CUP.—Value £50. Presented. Second to receive $150; and third $75. For griffins on date of entry and ponies that have never won a race. Subscription griffins of this season 1908-1909 allowed 5 lb. Weight for inches as per scale. Winners barred. Jockeys who had a winning mount in either Hongkong or Tientsin allowed 5 lb. Entrance $10. One mile.

9.—THE HONGKONG CLUB CUP.—Presented by the members of the Hongkong Club. Second to receive $150; and third $75. For China ponies. Weight for inches as per scale. Griffins allowed 5 lb. Subscription griffins of this season 1908-1909 allowed 10 lb. Winners at this meeting 5 lb. extra. Entrance $15. One mile and a half.

10.—THE RACING STAKES.—Value $400. Second to receive $150; and third $75. For China ponies. Subscription griffins of this season 1908-1909. Weight for inches as per scale. Winners barred. Unplaced Runners and Jockeys who have never had a winning mount in Hongkong, Shanghai or Tientsin allowed 5 lb. Allowances accumulative. Entrance $10. Five furlongs.

SECOND DAY.

1.—THE JOCKEY CUP.—Value $300. Second to receive $150; and third $75. For China ponies, Subscription griffins of any season. To be ridden by Jockeys who have not had more than two winning mounts previous to this meeting in Hongkong or China. Weight for inches as per scale. Winners barred. Jockeys who have never had a winning mount in either Hongkong, Shanghai or Tientsin allowed 5 lb. Entrance $10. One mile.

2.—THE EXCHANGE PLATE.—Value $1,000. Presented by the bankers and exchange brokers of Hongkong. Second to receive $250; and third $100. For China ponies. Weight for inches as per scale. Winners at this meeting of one race 7 lb.; of two or more races 10 lb. extra. Griffins allowed 5 lb. Subscription griffins of this season 1908-1909 allowed 10 lb. Unplaced runners allowed 5 lb. Entrance $15. From the two mile post once round and in.

3.—THE HONGKONG DERBY.—A sweepstakes of $20 each with $1,500 added. For China ponies, *bond fide* griffins on date of entry. First Pony to receive 70 per cent. Second 20 per cent.; and third 10 per cent. Weight for inches as per scale. One mile and a half.

4.—THE GERMAN CUP.—Presented by members of the Club Germania. Second to receive $150; and third $75. For China ponies, subscription griffins of this season 1908-1909. Weight for inches as per scale. Entrance $10. One mile and a quarter.

5.—THE CHINA STAKES.—Value $500. Second to receive $150; and Third $75. For China Ponies. Weight for inches as per scale. Winners at this Meeting of one Race 7 lb.; of two or more Races 10 lb. extra. Griffins allowed 5 lb. Subscription Griffins of Seasons 1907-1908 and 1908-1909 that have not won more than one race allowed 10 lb. Entrance $10. Five Furlongs.

6.—THE LUSITANO CUP.—Presented by the Members of the Club Lusitano. For China Ponies, *bond fide* Griffins on date of entry. Second to receive $150; and Third $75. Weight for inches as per scale. Subscription Griffins of this Season 1908-1909 allowed 7 lb. extra. Entrance $10. One mile.

7.—THE CHALLENGE CUP.—Value One hundred Guineas. For China Ponies. A forced entry of $10 each, but optional to China Ponies Subscription Griffins of this or previous Seasons. Weight for inches as per scale. To be won two years consecutively by a Pony or Ponies the *bond fide* property of the same owner. Winner to receive $300 and 70 per cent., Second $100 and 20 per cent., and Third $50 and 10 per cent. of the Entrance Fees until the Cup is finally won, when the Second Pony will receive 75 per cent., and Third Pony 25 per cent. of the Entrance Fees. One Mile and three quarters.

8.—THE NAVY CUP.—Presented by the Officers of His Majesty's Fleet. Second to receive $150; and Third $75. For China Ponies Subscription Griffins of this Season 1908-1909. Weight for inches as per scale. Winner of the German Cup 10 lb.; other Winners 7 lb. extra. Entrance $10. From the Two Mile Post Once Round and in.

9.—THE PARSEE CUP.—Presented by the Parsee Community. Value $500. Second to receive $150; and Third $75. For China Ponies *bond fide* Griffins on date of entry. Weight for inches as per scale. Winners of one Race 7 lb.; of two or more Races 10 lb. extra. Entrance $10. One Mile and a quarter.

10.—THE GYMKHANA CLUB CUP.—Value £50. Presented by the Members of the Gymkhana Club. Second to receive $150; and Third $75. For all China Ponies that have run at any Gymkhana Meeting or Meetings of the Season 1908 and Subscription Griffins of this Season 1908-1909. Weight 10 st. 8 lb. Winners of any Race other than Races confined to Subscription Griffins 7 lb.; of a Subscription Griffins Race 2 lb. extra. Subscription Griffins of this Season 1908-1909 allowed 7 lb. Winners at this Meeting barred. Jockeys who have never had a winning mount in either Hongkong, Shanghai or Tientsin allowed 5 lb. Entrance $10. Three quarters of a Mile.

THIRD DAY.

1.—THE GRAND STAND STAKES.—Value $500. Second to receive $150; and Third $75. For China Ponies, *bond fide* Griffins on date of entry.—Winners of one Race 5 lb.; of two or more Races 10 lb. extra. Subscription Griffins allowed 5 lb. Entrance $10. Three quarters of a Mile.

2.—THE GREAT SOUTHERN STAKES.—Value $500. Second to receive $150; and Third $75. For China Ponies. Weight for inches as per scale. Winners at this Meeting of one Race 7 lb.; of two or more Races 10 lb. extra. Griffins allowed 5 lb.; Subscription Griffins of Seasons 1907-1908 and 1908-1909 allowed 10 lb. Entrance $10. One Mile.

3.—THE HONGKONG STAKES.—Value $600. Second to receive $200; and Third $75. A forced entry for China Ponies Subscription Griffins of this Season 1908-1909. Weight for inches as per scale. Winners of one Race 7 lb.; of two or more Races 10 lb. extra. Entrance $10. One Mile.

4.—THE LADIES' PURSE.—Presented $250 added. Second to receive $150; and Third $75. For China Ponies. Weight for inches as per scale. Winners at this Meeting other than Subscription Griffins 5 lb. extra. Jockeys who have never had a winning mount in either Hongkong, Shanghai or Tientsin allowed 5 lb. Entrance $10. Once Round.

5.—THE FLYAWAY STAKES.—Value $400. Second to receive $150; and Third $75. For China Ponies *bona fide* Griffins on date of entry. Weight for inches as per scale. Winners of one Race 5 lb.; of two Races 7 lb.; and of three or more Races 10 lb. extra. Jockeys who have never had a winning mount in either Hongkong, Shanghai or Tientsin allowed 5 lb. Entrance $10. Seven Furlongs.

6.—THE PHAETON STAKES.—Presented by the Gymkhana Club. Handicap. Value $500. Second to receive $150; and Third $75. For China Ponies that have run at any Gymkhana Meeting or Meetings of the Season 1908, and Griffins on date of entry. Winners at this Meeting and non-starters barred. Entrance $10. One Mile and a quarter.

7.—THE GOVERNOR'S CUP.—Presented by His Excellency Sir F. J. D. Lugard, K.C.M.G., C.B., D.S.O. Second to receive $150; and Third $75. For China Ponies, Subscription Griffins of this Season 1908-1909. Weight for inches as per scale. Winners of one Race 7 lb.; of two or more Races 10 lb. extra. Entrance $10. One Mile.

8.—THE CONSOLATION STAKES.—A Sweepstakes of $10 each with $200 added. Second to receive $150; and Third $75. For China Ponies that have run and not won at this Meeting. Weight for inches as per scale. Jockeys who have never had a winning mount in either Hongkong, Shanghai or Tientsin allowed 5 lb. Three quarters of a Mile.

9.—THE CHAMPION STAKES.—With $750 added. Second to receive $250; and Third $150. For China Ponies, Winners at this Meeting only. A forced entry. Entrance $20. Winners of two Races $50; of three or more Races $80. Weight for inches as per scale. One Mile and a quarter.

10.—THE NIL DESPERANDUM STAKES.—A Sweepstakes of $10 with $200 added. Winner to receive 70 per cent.; Second 20 per cent.; and Third 10 per cent. For China Ponies, Subscription Griffins of this Season 1908-1909 that have run and not won at this Meeting. Weight for inches as per scale. Jockeys who have never had a winning mount in either Hongkong, Shanghai and Tientsin allowed 5 lb. Five Furlongs.

SHANGHAI LIBEL ACTION.

ERNEST THOMAS BETHELL v. "NORTH CHINA DAILY NEWS AND HERALD, LIMITED."

Shanghai, 9th December.

Before Mr. F. S. A. Bourne, acting Judge, and Messrs. P. W. Massey, H. W. Daldy, C. M. Joyce, R. M. C. Wallace and W. H. Jackson, (jurors).

This was a claim for damages for libel appearing in the *North China Daily News* of the 31st August and in the *North China Herald* of the 5th September 1908.

Mr. J. C. E. Douglas and Mr. H. Browett appeared on behalf of the plaintiff and Mr. T. Morgan Phillips and Mr. R. N. Macleod on behalf of the defendants.

STATEMENT OF CLAIM.

Mr. Douglas read the statement of claim as follows:—

1.—The Plaintiff is a British Subject residing at Seoul in the Empire of Korea and was until lately Editor and Proprietor of the *Korea Daily News* and the *Dai Han Mai Il Shimpo* being newspapers published at Seoul aforesaid.

2.—The Defendant, the *North-China Daily News and Herald*, Limited, is a Limited Company carrying on business in Shanghai and is the proprietor, printer and publisher of the *North-China Daily News* and of the *North-China Herald* and *Supreme Court and Consular Gazette*.

3.—The *North-China Daily News* is a daily newspaper which has a large circulation in Shanghai and in the Treaty Ports and elsewhere in China and also in other countries.

4.—The *North-China Herald and Supreme Court and Consular Gazette* is a weekly newspaper which has a circulation in England and elsewhere in His Majesty's dominions, in Shanghai and elsewhere in China, in the United States of America and in other countries.

5.—On or about the 31st day of August 1908 the Defendant Company falsely and maliciously printed and published in the *North-China Daily News* of that date words following:—

KOREA'S NATIONAL FUNDS.

THE ALLEGED MISAPPROPRIATION.

Tokio, 30th August.

It is reported from Japanese sources that there is continued native agitation in Seoul against Mr. Bethell in connection with the national debts redemption funds. The Japanese telegrams state that Mr. Bethell confessed to misappropriation in reply to remonstrative inquiries which were made yesterday.—Our Own Correspondent.

6.—That on or about the 5th day of September 1908 the Defendant Company again falsely and maliciously printed and published and caused to be printed and published of the plaintiff in the *North-China Herald* of that date the words as above stated.

7.—By the said words the Defendant Company meant and were understood to mean and intended that the Plaintiff had confessed that he had misappropriated the said national debts redemption funds and had been guilty of an indictable offence.

8.—By reason of the premises the Plaintiff has been and is greatly injured in his credit and reputation.

The Plaintiff claims:—(1)—Damages (2)—Costs and other relief.

STATEMENT OF DEFENCE.

This was read by Mr. Macleod as follows:—

1.—Defendants admit each and all the allegations contained in paragraphs 1, 2, 3 and 4 of the statement of claim.

2.—Defendants admit that they printed and published in the *Daily News* of Aug. 31 and in the *Herald* of Sept. 5 the words set out in pars. 5 and 6 of the statement of claim.

3—Defendants admit that the said words are capable of the meanings alleged in par. 7 of the statement of claim and that they referred to the plaintiff.

4—Before the commencement of this action the defendants caused to be printed in the *Daily News* and *Herald* of Sept. 19 the following apology to the plaintiff for the said words:—

THE SEOUL EMBEZZLEMENT TRIAL.

A telegram in our issue of Sept. 17 stated, in connection with the trial of Yang Ki-tak at Seoul on the charge of alleged embezzlement of Korea's national funds, that Mr. E. T. Bethell had "proved that everything was in order." In these circumstances it is clear that the statement quoted by our Tokio correspondent from Japanese telegrams alleging that Mr. Bethell "had confessed to misappropriation" was incorrect. The message in question appeared in our issue of August 31.....We have received assurances (anticipated indeed by our correspondent's message in Thursday's issue) that the Japanese vernacular reports in question were false and untrue, and we have therefore to express our sincere regret that our correspondent should have unwittingly given publicity to it.

5—Before the commencement of this action the defendants made and offered an apology to the plaintiffs for the said words by means of a letter written by the Chairman of the defendants to the plaintiff in the following words:—

Shanghai, 1st October, 1908.

Dear Sir,—Owing to the absence of the directors of the *North China Daily News and Herald* from Shanghai the correspondence between Mr. Bell, the editor, and you and your solicitors only came before the board yesterday. At the meeting it was suggested that I as Chairman should write to you to associate myself with Mr. Bell's expression of regret that anything of this kind should have appeared in the paper and that so far from desiring to do you any injury, our sympathy has been entirely with you in the unjustifiable attack made upon you by the Japanese press. As you may have seen the *N. C. D. News* of the 29th Sept. contained a letter to yourself from Mr. Cockburn whose views must carry great weight. Mr. Bell on Sept. 19 in the *Daily News* and the *Herald* of the same date drew attention to the falseness of the particular statement made by those people concerning yourself and expressed his sincere regret. If you do not think this sufficient I wish you to understand that we are quite prepared to do anything to remove the impression injurious to yourself which may possibly have been formed by our readers.

I am, dear sir,
Yours faithfully
F. ANDERSON,
Chairman.

E. T. Bethell, Esq.

6—Take note that defendants intend on the trial of this action to give in evidence in mitigation of damages the matters alleged in pars. 4 and 5 above.

The jury was empanelled and H. C. Davies was excused on account of deafness.

Mr. Douglas, in addressing the jury, said the issues which they had to try were exceedingly simple. The libel and the meaning of the libel was admitted and the defendants had put in a plea in mitigation of damages. The only issue then, if it could be called an issue, for the jury to try was to sit there and assess the damages which had to be paid for the libel having been written. When the jury had heard what counsel had to say and the evidence which would be adduced, they would, he thought, admit that it was a very cruel and vicious libel. Counsel proceeded to outline his case at some length.

Plaintiff was then called and said he was a resident of Seoul, Korea, having previously been in business in Japan. He went to Korea as correspondent of the *Daily Chronicle*, and afterwards became correspondent of the Associated Press and conducted the *Korea Daily News* and two vernacular papers, all of which papers he had since sold. The papers were patriotic to the Koreans. The policy had been to publish true reports of all current events and more particularly it had fallen to witness's lot to report abuses to the Koreans at the hands of the Japanese. These abuses led to his prosecution. His papers were not revolutionary; on the contrary the editorials had always been the other way.

Mr. Douglas was proceeding to question the witness as to when the new Order in Council came into force when his Lordship pointed out that the old Order was in practically the same wording as the new Order.

Proceeding, plaintiff said the first charge made against him was of circulating matter calculated to incite a breach of the peace. (Mr. Douglas read the article written by the plaintiff which resulted in his prosecution and his being bound over to keep the peace.) Witness said he was unable to find out who the actual prosecutor was. A second prosecution was instituted against him in June of this year by Mr. Wilkinson, the Crown Advocate, in respect of three articles appearing in the vernacular paper, one of which articles, witness admitted, came under the head of seditious writings. A condensed report of the trial appeared in the *N. C. Daily News*. Witness was sentenced to three weeks' imprisonment, and he served his sentence in Shanghai. While here Yang Ki-tak, his Korean Editor, was arrested by the Japanese, and for some months after witness could not find out what was the charge. A charge was afterwards made against him of embezzlement of the national redemption funds and he was arrested by trick. He was charged with starting an agitation in conjunction of funds and with having embezzled Yen 71,000. Witness proceeded to relate how the national redemption fund was inaugurated. Two years ago some people in Korea conceived the idea that if they could collect enough money to pay off the loans which Korea had had from Japan they would be able to get the Japanese out of the country. Witness did not know anything about this for some time. The first he knew of it was when subscriptions began coming to his office. It appeared that the Koreans, without witness' consent, had recommended the subscribers to send the money into witness's office. Witness did not know what to do with the contributions and he handed over the receipts of the first two weeks—about Yen 400—to a society formed for the purpose of collecting the money. He heard afterwards that the Society was not what it should be and that they were using the money for themselves, so witness sent them no more money, and he thought the Society had now disappeared. For a while he banked the money which came in to him and so held it. Subsequently a meeting of Koreans was held and trustees were appointed to carry on the work and witness agreed to hand over the funds in his possession. After paying in about Yen 32,000 witness ceased to make further payments, Yang Ki-tak being arrested about that time. Another meeting was held at which the chairman was the editor of an opposition paper conducted in the interests of a pro-Japanese Society. To that meeting witness gave an explanation of the disposition of the funds of the Society and they shook hands together and a vote of thanks was passed to him. This was about the 26th or 27th August and the telegram published in the *N. C. Daily News* was dated Tokio, August 30. Witness knew of nothing else upon which such a telegram could be based except what took place at this meeting. Witness had been continually making application to Mr. Cockburn, the British Consul, complaining about libels in Japanese papers. On September 10 he received a letter from Mr. Cockburn in which the writer agreed that witness was being libelled but informed him that he would obtain little or no redress by taking action. Witness saw the libel in the *Daily News* a few days after its publication. On Sept. 14 Mr. Crosse wrote, on witness's behalf, to the *N. C. Daily News* calling attention to the libel and demanding substantial damages (Yen 25,000) and an apology. The letter was acknowledged from Shanghai on the 18th by Mr. Bell. On the 17th Sept. a telegram was published in the *Daily News* stating that witness had given evidence and that the matter had been cleared up. The alleged apology appeared in both the *Daily News* and *Herald* on Sept. 19. After witness had returned to Korea and when it was common knowledge that he intended to take proceedings against the *Daily News*, witness received the letter from Mr. Anderson.

Mr. Douglas asked witness if the libel had been copied by other papers and Mr. Macleod objected. His Lordship upheld Mr. Douglas, stating that other newspapers repeating the libel would be themselves liable.

Witness said the libel had been published in the *Hankow Daily News*, the *South China Morning Post*, the *China Mail*, the *Hongkong Telegraph* and the *Manila Times*. The latter reproduced it with a qualification saying that as it was well known that witness was not *persona grata* with the Japanese the report should be taken with a grain of salt. Until this occurrence there had never been anything to damage witness in the eyes of the Koreans. Besides his earnings as a journalist witness had no fixed source of income. He had very little private means.

Cross-examined by Mr. Phillips, witness said he had been a journalist since March 1904, at the outbreak of the Russo-Japanese war. He left the employment of the *Daily Chronicle*. At the time of witness's prosecution both his native papers existed, and still existed, while the English paper ceased publication when witness was prosecuted. Acute friction commenced between the Koreans and Japanese in Nov., 1906, when the treaty was forced upon the Koreans. Witness then began to criticise the Japanese.

Mr. Phillips—And from that time on your paper has been hostile to the Japanese?

Witness—Not always. I sometimes found occasion to praise the Japanese Government, but very seldom.

Mr. Phillips then referred the witness to one of his articles which had led up to his first prosecution. He was then bound over to be of good conduct. Afterwards he was tried by the Supreme Court and sent to prison.

Mr. Phillips—You remember the judgment in that case?

Witness—I remember I had to go to prison. (Laughter.)

Witness said he was on friendly terms with the Japanese, but not politically. He knew the *Japan Chronicle*, whose criticisms were usually very fair.

Mr. Phillips—What about the criticisms of the *Japan Mail*? I suppose they are not fair?

Witness—Can I say what I like about that paper? (Laughter).

Mr. Phillips—I myself have no objection.

Witness—Very well, I consider it is a disgraceful paper. (Renewed laughter.)

Mr. Phillips—I presume it is not friendly to you?

Witness—No, we are of a different breed. (Loud laughter). That paper is continually libelling me. I cannot get at it. It is under Japanese law.

Mr. Phillips—Can you give any reason why the subscriptions to the national redemption funds were sent to your paper; was it because the people were friendly to you paper?

Witness—I was known to be beyond the improper control of the Japanese police; that money placed in my hands could not be taken from me.

Continuing, witness said that in May last he had received about Yen 64,000 towards the fund. He invested Yen 25,000 in mining, Yen 27,600 in a French concern, and about Yen 10,000 in a bank. On May 15 an announcement was made in the paper showing the disposal of the fund. At this time the monies had been invested.

Mr. Douglas (interrupting)—I don't know if it is my friend's intention to prove this libel but there is nothing about it on the pleadings.

Mr. Phillips—My questions are not directed with that intention. I am not justifying the libel as my friend will see at a later period.

Mr. Phillips then asked witness if he did not, in an advertisement of May 15, state the manner in which the funds had been disposed, and witness replied, that, strictly speaking, it was not an advertisement.

Mr. Phillips—Was it a statement of the disposition of the funds?—It was a mis-statement.

By you?—By my Korean Editor. The mis-statement rather conveyed the idea that the money was still in the bank instead of saying that the money had been deposited. The notice said nothing about the mining or any other investment.

At this stage the court adjourned for tiffin.

On resuming witness said he read the report of the Yang Ki-tak trial in the *Seoul Press*. He knew the editor of that paper and he had asked him to make a correction in the report. It was possible that he had suggested another alteration.

Mr. Phillips then proceeded to question witness regarding the moneys entrusted to him and with reference to his dealings with M. Martain, the Frenchman, asked what security had been given him. Witness replied that he received security on real property—a transfer of deeds.

Mr. Phillips.—Were they deposited with you?

Mr. Douglas.—I object to this question.

His Lordship.—Why do you object?

Mr. Douglas.—Because I am instructed that this information is required for particular purposes.

Mr. Phillips.—This is required for the purposes of this trial alone.

His Lordship.—If he is going to proceed with this action it may be necessary though inconvenient for him to answer.

Mr. Douglas—Mr. Bethell has been entrusted with certain subscriptions from Koreans in Korea and he has paid over these moneys in a certain way. The allegations are not that he has embezzled, and yet they are alluding to it. That money has been placed in the hands of trustees properly selected, and in all these dealings with the money he had secured the approval of the trustees, and any investment he has made has been submitted to these trustees and approved of by them. In the box he says the security is real property. Where that property is situated, what it is, or how it came to be given is not a matter which can be given here, although it may be very valuable information.

His Lordship—There is no intention of extracting information—

Mr. Douglas—I am prepared to satisfy your Lordship that there is.

Mr. Macleod—There is not.

His Lordship—I am satisfied that there is not.

Mr. Phillips—I never heard of it until this moment.

His Lordship—I understand that the object of this is to find out on what security Mr. Bethell advances this money. That they are entitled to know. I shall exclude anything further.

Proceeding, witness stated that M. Martain's security exceeded the amount of the advances, namely twenty-seven thousand. It was not true that he had no security whatever from M. Martain other than his personal bond. He knew only in a general way the objects to which M. Martain devoted the Yen 27,000. Some were advances on land, and he put in a great many improvements into his hotel.

Mr. Phillips—Was there any charge against you, do you think, of improperly dealing with these funds?—I believe there was. I did not know definitely about it.

Are you sure you did not know definitely?—If you will let me put it in my own wording, I own that they did publish something false.

What did you know?—I do not remember. These falsehoods were so common.

Did you take any notice of them?—No.

Why did you communicate with Mr. Cockburn?—That doesn't make any difference.

It may make some difference. Why did you communicate with him if you did not know what was in them?—I did not say I did not know what was in them. I knew in a general way.

Mr. Phillips then proceeded to read telegrams in the Japanese native papers stating that Mr. Bethell had misappropriated the funds, and witness stated that he had not heard of these telegrams but knew that the Japanese foreign papers had alluded to them. He had seen the publication of the libel in the *N. C. Daily News* about the 5th of September, and it had not occurred to him to telegraph to the *N. C. Daily News* that a mistake had been made. He considered that the telegram of Sept. 17th stating that the matters connected with the funds were proved to be in order was published just as a matter of course. The apology of September 19th gave him no satisfaction in the least, and it had not occurred to him that he might not proceed with his libel action.

Mr. Phillips—Have all these things had no effect at all?—If they had behaved in a handsome way—

Mr. Phillips—In the shape of Yen 25,000?—The apologies were very tardy. All these apologies have come as a result of some proceeding on my part. They have not been spontaneous.

Mr. Phillips then proceeded to put to witness a letter written by Mr. Anderson on behalf of the Directors of the *N. C. D. News* stating that if the apology which had been inserted was not sufficient they would be prepared to do anything they could to remove the impression injurious to him. This letter, witness said, had made no impression on him. In answer to a letter demanding $25,000 and a full apology Mr. Phillips read a letter offering to pay any reasonable expenses, but stating that they could not entertain any demand for money payment for damages. His reply to this letter had been to go on with the proceedings. He wanted further publicity—the publicity he now had in court. He was going back to Korea to run his newspaper in the immediate future and the subsequent publications of this libel would damage him as it might be translated into Korean and circulated as a new piece of news.

Re-examined—The money had not been paid over to the trustees, as at the time only General Yoon, who was not a business man, was present, so he retained the money. He had received no complaints about the arrangement of the funds, but had received letters stating that if the funds were not properly handled he would be held responsible. [illegible] Yang Ki-tak passed a fair [illegible]

but the investigations which went before the trial seemed to be directed against witness. In the trial there was a good deal of difficulty about the interpretations. He could state to the jury that his hands were quite clean regarding the trust funds.

At this point Mr. Phillips interposed, and said there had been no suggestion of dishonesty.

In further reply to Mr. Douglas who made mention of the libels in the Japanese papers, witness said that nobody ever attached importance to them. It was also extremely difficult to obtain redress, and if a man took no action it was not taken for granted that he did not take it because he could not. The reason he was so reluctant to accept an apology when offered was that the libel had gone too far—it might have gone to the ends of the earth—and an ordinary apology would not be sufficient.

Mr. Phillips called attention to the fact that the Hongkong papers which had copied the libel had inserted apologies.

With the conclusion of the plaintiff's examination his case came to an end, and the court adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, when Mr. Phillips will open for the defence, and Mr. Green, as representing the *N. C. D. News*, will be called.

Shanghai, 10th December.

The libel action at the instance of E. T. Bethell against the *North China Daily News* was continued to-day when the defendant's part of the case was heard. Mr. J. C. E. Douglas and Mr. H. Browett appeared on behalf of the plaintiff, and Mr. T. Morgan Phillips and Mr. R. N. Macleod on behalf of the defendants.

In addressing the jury Mr. Morgan Phillips said that the case for the defendants had been clearly indicated by the pleadings which had been read and by the cross-examination of the plaintiff. The issue before them was a simple one, and he thought would give them but little trouble in coming to a decision upon it. Shortly the case for the defendants was this. The publication of the libel was admitted under circumstances to which he would allude later on. The defendants said that by their apology and other publications every reparation that was possible had been made to the plaintiff. They said that the plaintiff had suffered no damage, and further said that by certain indications Mr. Bethell had caused the inception of this libel. Mr. Phillips dealt at length with Mr. Bethell's position in Korea, the War, and the relation of Japan to the country. Unfortunately there had been outbreaks of violence, skirmishes, bloodshed, and considerable loss of life. A patriotic association had been formed in Korea which was adverse to Japan, adverse to the government ruling Korea. Mr. Bethell's papers, as they knew, strongly supported this national movement, and the matter became so serious that the British Government had to intervene, and certain Orders in Council had to be passed.

His Lordship—They were not passed for that particular purpose. They were passed for the purpose of journalism in China quite as much as in Korea. They had no particular reference to Korea, and much less to Mr. Bethell.

Mr. Phillips—I am obliged for your Lordship's explanation as your Lordship knows so much more about it than I do.

His Lordship—I am sorry to interrupt but I cannot let that go as the opinion of the people in this court; I think you are under a misconception.

Mr. Phillips—I was rather guided by the information of my learned friend, Mr. Douglas, who referred to the Order in Council as the Bethell Order.

Mr. Douglas—I was guided by the Crown Advocate. (Laughter.)

Proceeding, Mr. Phillips said that they would agree that Mr. Bethell's policy in respect to his newspapers was an indiscreet one, was mischievous, and was dangerous. He was inciting a weak people, an unwarlike people, to try to get rid of the overwhelming power of Japan. It was a policy which was not likely to succeed, which led to trouble, to bloodshed and to loss of life. Suspicions regarding the National Debt Redemption Fund were aroused in Seoul towards the end of August, and Yang Ki-tak was ultimately charged with embezzling a portion of these funds. He had been committed for trial and ultimately acquitted. Mr. Phillips did not place these matters before the jury for the purpose of discrediting Mr. Bethell, but to show that Mr. Bethell by his conduct in Korea had assumed a prominent public position in an important public matter. Public men, especially in such a political matter as Mr. Bethell was engaged in were likely to be calumniated and maligned, and that apparently had been the lot of Mr. Bethell. It was from that standpoint that he asked the jury, and he thought they must view the case in that light, that this was a libel on a public man, in a controversial and political matter, and there was a great distinction between this libel, which they were now considering, and one which he ventured to bring before them for a moment. In this compact foreign settlement of theirs every incident of interest was thoroughly discussed, and some months ago there was a case of libel tried in this court, in which, unfortunately, the *N. C. Daily News* was defendant. It was a libel upon two private gentlemen in their professional capacity. It was unfortunately a serious libel; and the jury took a serious view of it, and awarded heavy damages. It was not for him to discuss the findings of the jury or the reasons which actuated them. It might be that they thought that if greater care had been taken in dealing with a matter here, on the spot in Shanghai, that the matter would not have been published in the paper. The reason he drew their attention to this was to point out that that libel case which had been tried some months ago and the one before them were on entirely different footings, and the standpoint from which they must view this case was that it was a libel on a person who had adopted a public position in the matter to which he had alluded, namely, the National Debt Redemption Fund and his attitude towards the Japanese Government. Mr. Phillips next quoted the libellous telegram, and drew attention to the opening phrase. "It is reported from Japanese sources." That was correct, for the Japanese telegrams had stated that Mr. Bethell had confessed to misappropriation. It was suggested that there should have been an apology on receipt of the second telegram, but it was utterly impossible to insert an apology until further inquiries had been made or until they had received further intelligence with regard to this story. In addition to an apology Mr. Bethell claimed the round sum of Yen 25,000 as damages. It seemed to counsel an extraordinary demand to make in the first letter complaining of the libel. Mr. Phillips considered the apology in the *N. C. Daily News* as ample, and the succeeding publications as evidence of the *bona fides* of the paper. After all that had appeared in the *N. C. Daily News*, there was still this demand for an ample apology and the payment of a sum of $35,000, which was an unreasonable demand, and which clearly indicated the object of Mr. Bethell in going on with these proceedings—namely, the enforcement of the payment of a large sum by way of damages. Why did not the reasonable, practicable suggestions in reply to the letters he received? Every apology had been made that was required. Further apology he did not wish; further publicity in the *N. C. D. News* he did not wish for. What he did wish for, and what he hoped to get was satisfaction by means of large damages. Every stigma has been removed, and counsel could only imagine that seeing his learned friend, Mr. Douglas, with his pockets bulging with damages, which had been obtained very properly a few months ago, encouraged Mr. Bethell to the idea that he might leave Shanghai with his pockets in an equally desirable condition. (Laughter.) It was obvious, he suggested, that it was money, and that only that Mr. Bethell required to satisfy him in this matter. They suggested that Mr. Bethell had brought this trouble upon himself. He had lent Yen 27,500 to Mr. Martain. Mr. Phillips was not to attempt to justify the libel, to show that he appropriated funds, but what he did say was that Mr. Bethell had acted in an extremely indiscreet manner. In the witness box Mr. Bethell had treated the matter in a somewhat hesitating way, and Mr. Phillips asked the jury to come to the conclusion that he had lent the money on a personal security. The sole object of the questions which had been put to him in respect to that fund and his advice to Mr. Martain was to show that he acted indiscreetly, and that at that meeting and subsequently he certainly gave his Japanese opponents a handle upon which to hang this libel. They had telegraphed to Japan to say that Mr. Bethell had confessed to misappropriation. Of course it was a distortion of the fact, but there had been some ground for them to believe this statement. That was the inception of the libel. They did not say he acted dishonestly in regard to this fund, but they would say that he acted so indiscreetly and in such an unbusinesslike way that he gave grounds for the Japanese telegrams. If they thought the advancing of money to Mr. Martain on note of hand was an unbusinesslike proceeding—one could speak of it more harshly—was he entitled to go to a jury and ask for $25,000? The *North China Daily News* was not seeking for advancement by means of libel actions. There lay the irony of this proceeding. There were many papers and publications in Shanghai, it seemed to counsel, anxious to find libel actions. Speaking metaphorically, they had their heads through the canvas, shouting, "Three shots a penny," and offering a handsome prize. There seemed to be no one keen to compete, because there was no handsome prize at the other side of the screen. The honour that had been awarded to the *N. C. D. News* had not been sought for, and he was bound to tell them that the Directors received it with the worst possible grace. They said, "We don't want it. Take the beastly thing away, and give it to the *Godown*. (Laughter.) In conclusion Mr. Phillips submitted that it was not within the bounds of possibility that living in Korea this libel could affect or damage the plaintiff, and if any damage had been done it would be adequately repaired by the smallest coin in the British currency. He proceeded to call evidence.

Owen M. Green, assistant editor of the *N. C. D. News*, said that he had been engaged in journalism for ten years, and came to Shanghai in June 1907. He was for close on three years correspondent in Paris, and for two years correspondent in Rome for the *Morning Leader* having also had experience on the editorial staff. The practice in sending news if one had no personal knowledge of the fact was to quote the source of information, but the general rule in copying from papers was to give the names. When such a telegram was received by a paper the practice was to keep as near to the original wording as possible. On Aug. 30th Mr. Bell was away, and witness was editing the *N. C. D. News*. He inserted the telegram in the ordinary way. Previously the *N. C. D. News* had published information regarding Yang Ki-tak and Mr. Bethell, all of which had been put in the same way. The libel complained of came from their Tokio correspondent. On the 18th August the letter from Cross and Yamashita arrived and at once steps were taken to stop the sale of the issue. There were no means of telegraphing to anyone to stop the sales. The only agent they had was in London and he received nine copies a week and sold about three. The other agents they had were for collecting advertisements and not for sales. Copies of the paper containing the apology would have gone to all the places to which the libel went. The leader with reference to the trial had been written with the case of Mr. Bethell in mind, though it would probably have been written in any case.

Cross-examined—He had no knowledge of any untrue publications regarding Mr. Bethell previously. Mr. Douglas alluded to the *N. C. Daily News* of October 21st, 1907, in which was a telegram regarding the trial of Mr. Bethell before Mr. Cockburn stating among other things that the case had been transferred to Hongkong, and also that he would be fined in Hongkong, and also that he would be fined £300 for his virulent utterances. Their Tokyo correspondent was on the staff of the *Kokumin Shimbun*.

Mr. Douglas—As editor of a paper do you know whether the court at Hongkong had jurisdiction over a British subject at Seoul?—No; I do not.

Mr. Douglas—Quite interesting. Have you ever found with reference to cases in Korea any bias in your Tokyo correspondent?—Not with regard to foreigners. Continuing witness said they had not changed their correspondent. He did not think it would have been a proper thing to have inserted a footnote to the telegram of the confession of misappropriation stating that they published it with all reserve.

Re-examined—He did not think their Japanese correspondent was to blame in this case.

The court then adjourned for tiffin.

On resuming in the afternoon Mr. Macleod called

F. Anderson, chairman of the directors of the defendant company, who said that at the time the libel was published he was in Shanghai but not in the best of health. Shortly afterwards he left for Weihaiwei and returned on Oct. 28. The following day he went to the *Daily News* office and after being shown the correspondence he decided to call a board meeting. The meeting was held on the 30th, and it was decided to take legal advice and that witness should write to Mr. Bethell. Witness wrote the letter as contained in the statement of defence. He did not then know that Mr. Bethell had left Seoul. He received no acknowledgment to the letter. Before the libel was published witness did not know about the telegram.

Cross-examined—Witness considered it necessary to call a board meeting. The apology had already been published at that time. Witness had read Mr. Bell's letter to plaintiff's solicitors, which was written without prejudice.

Mr. Douglas—Don't you think it would have been much better for you to put in a more ample apology?

Witness—We consulted Messrs. Stokes and Platt and Drummond White-Cooper and they both told us that the one already published was ample.

In further answer to Mr. Douglas witness said he understood that Mr. Bethell went to Mr. Wilkinson and Mr. McNeill before he consulted Mr. Browett and Mr. Douglas.

This closed the case for the defence and Mr. Macleod addressed the jury. The question for them to decide was, as had already been stated, a very simple one, viz. how much would they award Mr. Bethell as damages? Referring to Mr. Bethell, counsel said it was an undisputed fact that he was a public character having made himself so in Korea of his own accord. Mr. Macleod then dealt with the libel and the apology, the latter of which, he submitted, as published in the *Daily News* and contained in Mr. Anderson's letter, was ample. Mr. Bethell was only entitled to recover damages which he had either already suffered or was reasonably likely to suffer. Mr. Bethell had not proved to them that he had suffered any damages or that he was likely to suffer damages, and this being so counsel asked the jury to say that he had not been damaged. At the conclusion of his address Mr. Macleod asked the jury to mark their opinion of Mr. Bethell's behaviour and award to him only nominal damages.

Mr. Douglas next addressed the jury. They had heard Mr. Bethell and they could not be of any other opinion than that he was a straightforward and honourable man and as far as journalism was concerned he stood for all that was best in journalism. He had been editing an independent paper and writing what he believed to be true in the interests of a people and a country not strictly his own. Mr. Douglas referred the jury to the serious nature of the libel itself in saying that Mr. Bethell had confessed to a criminal offence, and contended that the defendants ought to have known of the press campaign which was being made by the Japanese against Mr. Bethell. The whole gist of the action was that Mr. Bethell had been guilty of graft in Korea, and to this the defendants had lent themselves by frequently accepting the telegrams from their Japanese correspondent in Tokio without first ascertaining whether they were based upon true or false statements. Mr. Douglas asked the jury to consider the conduct of the defendants at the trial, and submitted that on the word of the defendant's counsel alone in the conduct of the case the jury would be disposed to award very heavy damages. For two and a half hours Mr. Bethell had been kept in the witness box undergoing a most bitter cross-examination. Mr. Douglas referred to the remarks which Mr. Phillips had made about him in connection with the previous libel action in which he was a party, and said those remarks would have been better not made.

In summing up his Lordship said that the jury would have to remember that they had a kind of problem in moral algebra. They had to arrive at two things—what was the amount of reputation Mr. Bethell had lost; and what was the amount that should be paid to him. First what was Mr. Bethell's character before this libel? So far as they knew he was of the average character of the Englishman in the East, and apart from that the only evidence that had been given was that in October, 1907, he had been tried by Mr. Cockburn and bound over and in June last had been tried and found guilty of conduct calculated to stir up enmity between the Government and subjects of Korea. His Lordship could not see in any of that the least evidence in Mr. Bethell's character of a man who would be likely to misappropriate funds. It might make him a very ineligible member of a "Peace at Any Price" society or a Quakers' Society, but it did not show the least bit that he was dishonest in the way that this libel represented him to be dishonest. They would then start off with a man of an average good character. Proceeding they must give value to the fact that in the telegram they had mentioned the authority of Japanese telegrams, and the phrase "reported from Japanese sources." They had to consider what effect that would have on the mind of an average Englishman reading it. Would he look on that telegram in the same way, would he give it the same value as he would to a telegram stating that the correspondent of the paper reported it, or the *Times* in London said so? Was there not a very great difference in the nature or conclusion in as much as Japanese sources and Japanese telegrams were referred to? His Lordship then passed on to deal with the evidence in mitigation. There was the argument of Mr. Phillips which seemed to be supported by the evidence that the libel was due a great deal to Mr. Bethell's own indiscretion in the way in which he dealt with these funds. If they thought so it would be something presumably in mitigation of damages. In the next place they had to consider the apology and other contradictions. If the apology had been frank, without shuffling or casuistry, it would go a long way to wipe out the effect of the libel. After hearing Mr. Green's evidence the conclusion his Lordship came to was that at the very worst they had been negligent. They would have seriously to consider whether Mr. Bethell ought not to have accepted the offer of the *N. C. D. News* and if they held so it seemed to him that they could not give him very much more than he would have received then.

After a short absence the jury returned with a verdict of $3,000 for the plaintiff.

His Lordship gave judgment accordingly.—*Shanghai Mercury.*

CAUSEWAY BAY DISTURBED.

PURSUING ALLEGED THIEVES.

16th inst.

Just before dawn broke over Causeway Bay to-day a terrible noise was heard coming from one of the buildings. It started with a heart-rending groan and continued with a series of short; but loud howls, followed by the sharp, shrill blasts of a police-whistle—a racket as if some person had "chowed" something disagreeable and medical assistance was required, and could not be obtained.

The wailing, the yelling, and the whistling awoke the notables of the district and sent them flying to their windows in a great state of alarm. Of course, everybody thought that murder was being committed. By this time a good-sized crowd had assembled in the street, all anxious to discover from where the noise came.

It might be mentioned that, during the commotion, a certain gentleman rushed out from his house, in time to see a Chinaman running past the Cotton Mills premises. Believing that he was the "murderer," our hero, who is a champion runner of Causeway Bay, having covered the hundred yards in three hours, or thereabouts, pursued the ruffian.

"If you want to lose your life," said the pursued individual, "come after me." The hero, who can tip the scales at very nearly three hundred, replied, somewhat aggressively, "I am coming." The chase lasted for about two minutes, when our hero, having lost his wind, decided that he was not built for such "hard work." The alleged thieves, in the circumstances, escaped.

The scene was one of great excitement; the thieves, if they were, escaped, as we have said before, owing to the fact that the hero after continuing the chase for about three seconds, fell over himself, and by the time he was picked up, the alleged robbers had disappeared.

It was stated when inquiries were made by certain parties, who had been disturbed by the noise, that an attempt had been made to remove a safe from a building in the neighbourhood. The robbers, under the pretence of being night coolies, entered the house, and were about to perform their nefarious deed when the watchman discovered them. They attacked the watchman most brutally, and having laid him out, left the premises.

Causeway Bay has not recovered from the shock yet.

DEATH OF SISTER ALLANSON.

38 YEARS OF EDUCATIONAL WORK.

14th inst.

Shortly after noon to-day the death took place at the Italian Convent of Sister Maria Allanson, at the age of sixty-four years. By her death the teaching staff of that institution loses a member whose place it will not be easy to fill. Of a highly respected and one of the best known Portuguese families in Hongkong, Miss Allanson thirty-eight years ago elected to take the veil, assuming her name in religion of Sister Mariquinhas. At an early period of her novitiate she dedicated herself to the educational branch of the institution, making it later a task of life-long devotion which her untiring energy and indefatigable spirit sustained to within a few weeks of her end, when she was compelled to be invalided terminating in death at mid-day today. During the thirty-eight years during which Sister Allanson toiled incessantly to educate the minds of hundreds, and thousands, of her little charges, whose daughters in later years were also entrusted to her care, she has equipped the minds of many a mother and useful member of society by more than precept alone, as hers was a character which believed much more in inculcating good moral principles by example rather than precept. Frank almost to a fault, by those who did not know her intimately, Sister Allanson was out-spoken in her ideas, and on educational matters spoke her mind in no uncertain manner. By the late Dr. E. J. Eitel, a former inspector of schools in Hongkong, Sister Allanson was often consulted as regards female education in Hongkong, especially so in the early days of the educational history of the Island. There can be no question but that the late Sister Allanson's practical advice must have taken shape in the evolution of the present-day curriculum of Government in matters concerning the instruction of girls in Hongkong.

The arduous nature of her duties, which had no intermission, undermined her constitution until she fell a victim to a form of consumption from which she died to-day. She retained her consciousness to the very last. Sister Allanson was surrounded in her death-bed by her two surviving sisters—Miss Angelica Allanson and Mrs. Alves—her niece, Mrs. Leo. d'Almada e Castro, the Rev. Mother, and all the other Sisters of the Convent. The last religious ministrations were given by the Right Rev. Bishop Pozzoni; the Rev. Father Spada was also in attendance. Sister Allanson leaves a brother—Mr. William Allanson, of Shanghai, to mourn her loss, besides a host of past pupils and friends who had been endeared to her by close acquaintance.

THE FUNERAL.

16th inst.

Amidst popular demonstration of sorrow, the remains of the late Sister Maria Allanson, who died at the Italian Convent on Monday, were laid to rest in the beautiful cemetery at Happy Valley yesterday afternoon. The *cortege* left the Italian Convent after 4 p.m. The procession was headed by the nephews of the deceased lady, as chief mourners, who were followed by Rev. Mother Martinola and Sisters of the Italian Convent. A number of ladies, most of whom were past pupils of Sister Mariquinhas, walked behind the Sisters; the day-scholars of the Convent schools came next; they were followed by the boarders in black and blue uniform. The Portuguese orphan girls formed the next section in the solemn march, their Chinese companions coming close behind. Friends of the deceased, including a large number of Portuguese gentlemen, brought up the rear. In that order the mourners followed the hearse to the Happy Valley. Arriving at the Monument, the number of mourners was very largely augmented by over a hundred friends who desired to pay their last tribute of respect to the memory of the deceased. Many ladies, who carried beautiful wreaths and other floral tributes, followed the procession from the Monument.

Arriving at the cemetery gate, the coffin was borne to the grave by relatives of the deceased. The procession that was formed within the burial-ground was headed by His Lordship Bishop Pozzoni in his Pontifical robes, who was assisted at the ceremony by the Rev. Frs. P. de Maria and Augustin, and the Rev. Fathers of the Italian, French and Spanish Missions. The Sisters of l'Asile de la Ste. Enfance were also present at the graveside.

The last prayers were said by Bishop Pozzoni and at the conclusion of the blessing of the grave, the casket was lowered into its last resting place. The whole ceremony was most impressive.

A HOT SPRING.

PHENOMENON AT CHAN CHU KANG.

A hot spring has been discovered on some property at the 12th mile at Chau Chu Kang belonging to Mr. Seah Eng Keong. The spring is in a piece of swampy ground, and the water is said to be boiling hot and to smell strongly of sulphur.

When seen at the Opium Farm yesterday, says the *Singapore Free Press* of the 9th inst., Mr. Seah Eng Keong was amazed that the *Free Press* had heard of the hot spring. "How did you hear about it?" was the first thing he said. He admitted that the spring was in existence, and stated that he had sent a sample of the water to the Government Analyst for examination. Until the result of the analysis had been received, he did not think it was any use in making public the discovery.

Hot or thermal springs exist in two or three localities here only, Malacca, Naning and Selangor being the only districts regarding which there is any reliable information. The springs are found in level swampy ground only, as in other countries, and are believed to possess curative purposes. The Klang spring is thus described by Mr. R. Douglas: "Near the junction of the Klang and Tata, we came on the track to Pahang. About four miles below the kampong of Sungei Tata we reached a hot spring flowing out of the basin in a small granite rock, about two or three feet above the bed of a small branch or back-water of the Klang on its left bank. The water is impregnated with sulphur, and hot enough to cook an egg or rice in; we found it too hot to test by hand. On approaching, steam is seen rising a considerable height among the trees. A short distance below are two other springs, the lowest being the coolest and oozing out of the mud. Here wild cattle—seladang—and other large game come down to wallow in the hot ground, and, so the natives say, to drink the mineral water. The natives themselves bathe in the water and use it as an internal medicine for rheumatism, with, they say, good effect. There was some ebullition as of boiling.

At Ayer Panas, in Malacca, a similar spring exists. It is the centre of a paddy field, about 6½ feet square, with a clear stream of water running within two feet of its edge. Temperature reading: A spring at Sabang shows a temperature of over 200 deg. according to one writer, 150 deg. according to another.

A hot spring in Singapore was discovered by Mr. W. A. B. Coode, Municipal Ranger,

RIVER EXCURSION.

GERMAN PARTY'S PROPOSED TRIP TO MACAO.

16th inst.

On Sunday next a large number of our esteemed German fellow-citizens are proceeding on a pleasure excursion to Macao. We understand that the German Admiral will be a guest of his compatriots on the trip to the neighbouring Colony. A prominent member of the German community, when seen by a representative of this paper, this afternoon, kindly stated that the excursion has no significance attached to it, beyond being a private entertainment arranged among a party of friends. We believe a river steamer has been chartered by the excursionists to convey the party to and from Macao.

THE YARN DISPUTE.

DIFFERENCES OVER THE MORTGAGE.

Sir Francis Piggot (Chief Justice) listened to further argument last Wednesday, in the case brought by Messrs. S. J. David and Company against their compradore (Mr. Chan Ut Chiu) to recover the sum of $648,816.67 and interest at the rate of $8 per centum per annum from the date the writ was issued and until payment or judgment; and the counter-claim to recover the sum of $55,000, alleged to have been security deposited with the firm.

The point at issue was whether a certain clause in the mortgage could be construed and read in the mortgage.

Mr. Pollock (for the plaintiffs) argued that the two documents taken together constituted a personal covenant, and that the word "all" showed that the personal liability was to extend to all monies, losses, etc., and was not limited to the value of the premises mortgaged, or the security deposited.

Sir Henry Berkeley (for the defence) said the words did not create a debt. It was not a mortgage for a debt, but a surety. The defendants said there was nothing due under the mortgage, because there was no covenant to pay.

His Lordship: I wish our conveyancers would adopt the French system of conveyancing. This is most complicated. If somebody would only study French conveyancing it would be quite simple—you simply say what you mean.

Sir Henry said the precise terms were: If you pay the losses you get back your property; if you do not pay the losses you lose your property.

His Lordship said he would deliver his judgment on the case before next Wednesday.

S.S. "CHIYO MARU."

SISTER SHIP OF S.S. "TENYO MARU."

The magnificent new triple-screw steel steamer *Chiyo Maru*, of the Toyo Kisen Kaisha, will be due to arrive in Hongkong on the 21st December, and will inaugurate her initial voyage on the Trans-Pacific run starting from Hongkong on December 26th at noon.

This palatial steamer is a sister ship of the s.s. *Tenyo Maru*, for several months in the service, and is equipped with all the very latest modern improvements known to the maritime world; she is an oil burner of the latest approved type, equipped with wireless telegraph apparatus and luxuriously furnished throughout without regard to expense.

This steamer will sail from Hongkong on the run of the s.s. *Hongkong Maru*, which will proceed to Japan for extensive repairs and improvements before being again placed in the service.

JAPAN AND CHINA.

FAILURE OF JAPANESE DIPLOMACY.

More than ten months have elapsed since the occurrence of the *Tatsu-maru* affair in February, writes the *Tokyo Asahi*, but the boycott movement in South China still seems to be carried on with more or less vigour. As will be seen from the recrudescence of the agitation recently at Hongkong the feeling against Japan among a certain class of Chinese is apparently very strong and is ready to burst out on the slightest provocation. "While not ignoring the success of the Government in preventing the boycott from spreading to a wider area," continues the journal, "we must at the same time express surprise at the tardiness with which the cause of the trouble is being removed. Not a few people are of opinion that although the Japanese Government is comparatively well informed on affairs on North China and attaches much importance to them, it is not so well posted in the state of things prevailing in South China. Unfortunately, this seems only too true. Politically speaking, North China, as the seat of the Chinese Government, should of course claim the lion's share of attention; but, from a commercial point of view, more importance should be attached to Middle and South China. Canton and Hongkong, as the centres of distribution in those parts of the Middle Kingdom, are the most noteworthy emporiums of trade, and as such Japan should pay the utmost attention to the state of affairs prevailing in those places. Nevertheless complaints have been rife among shipping and other people who are affected most by the boycott as to the indifferent manner in which the Japanese authorities are coping with the situation engendered by the boycott movement. The greater part of Japan's trade with South China being carried on through Chinese, surprise is being expressed that such companies as the Nippon Yusen and the Toyo Kisen Kaisha, which are liberally subsidised by the Government, do not make the clamour against the Government's policy louder. There can be no manner of doubt that Japan's interests are seriously threatened owing to the incompetence of the Government.

It may be said that the boycott against America dragged on for a considerable length of time, continues the Tokyo journal, and so it can hardly be expected that the agitation against Japan could be settled within a shorter period. It must not be forgotten, however, that the trade of America in China represents only a small percentage of her foreign trade, whereas something like 20 per cent. of Japan's total trade is done with China. Such being the case, it is the height of absurdity for Japan to sit idly by and witness the gradual falling-off of her trade. It is alleged that the contingency of the boycott of Japanese goods is attributable to the activity of some interested outsiders. If this is really the case, then the more reason for the Japanese authorities to do their best to effect an improvement. It falls to the lot of the Consular officials to strive to ameliorate the situation; and if an increase in the membership of the Consular staff or an additional outlay of money is necessary for this purpose the Government should not be parsimonious in the granting of whatever amount is required.—*Japan Chronicle.*

SHANGHAI SETTLEMENT EXTENSION.

In this week's *Municipal Gazette* the Captain-Superintendent of Police, in his monthly summary of police affairs, calls attention to a serious incident that took place on November 19 on the Immediate boundary of the Settlement near the Harbin Road Police Station. By way of making an armed raid, writes Lieutenant-Colonel C. D. Bruce, upon the smaller gambling fraternity who have for months past been allowed to flourish in this district, the local police were permitted to open modern rifle fire into the crowd upon the immediate border of the Settlement. "The range of such rifles as were used," he adds, "is any distance up to 2,000 yards, and what the result might have been in the Settlement had the greatest good luck not followed this promiscuous fusilade is easily imagined by those acquainted with the trajectory of modern rifles." From the report which appeared in our columns at the time it will be remembered that, after a series of ineffectual efforts on the part of the newly established Chinese police to eject certain gamblers from this district, an attempt was made on the day in question to deal with them *vi et armis*. A posse of constables fully armed was dispatched to their haunts; and when the gamblers showed signs of resistance a general order to fire was given. The police are said to have used their rifles freely, but with apparently little effect upon the gamblers. No casualties among the latter are reported; but the general fusilade resulted in the death of two innocent children who were shot, while a third received a sword cut upon the forehead. Regarding this affray, it is stated that no steps have been taken on the part of the Paoshan authorities to bring those responsible for this tragedy to justice, and there would seem to be a tendency to regard it as, perhaps, a regrettable incident but otherwise not out of the ordinary experience of police work.

Such an incident serves to round off with telling effect the long series of arguments which have been adduced in favour of an extension of the present boundary. In the hope of thwarting the natural expansion of the Settlement the Chinese authorities have established on the north side a cordon of small yamêns beyond our borders. To these have been added a body of police, who in order that they may have the semblance of a trained force, have recently been armed with modern rifles. For many months there have frequently been either actual conflicts or a clashing of authority between the Chinese and Municipal police forces, and if into this state of tension is to be introduced the additional danger of modern rifles, liable to be let off at a moment's notice, with no justification whatever, the situation becomes serious. From the incident that took place on November 19 it has to be inferred that the police sent out to raid the gambling dens were not only improperly trained and undisciplined, but were subject to little or no control by officers on the spot. Their operations against the lawless characters that infest the Paoshan district—salt smugglers, river thieves, loafers and kindred spirits—show a consistent lack of success, with the result that the menace from this neighbourhood to the Settlement tends to increase. At the same time a further danger threatens from the insanitary conditions obtaining in this and the Chapei district. It is as prejudicial to the interests of the Settlement to keep on its boundaries a breeding ground for disease as it is to allow most of the dangerous characters from the country around to be attracted within or just outside limits.

An extension of the Settlement is asked for in no spirit of aggression. The expansion of such a city as Shanghai, the main trading centre of this part of the Far East, cannot be restricted artificially, and as things are to-day, neither Chinese nor foreigners can have reason to be satisfied with existing arrangements. Nothing that is bound to be a constant source of friction between the two sections of the community should be tolerated longer than is necessary. China and the Powers with special interests in the Far East are equally concerned to avoid embittered relations, and from the former's point of view the present bone of contention is not worth sacrificing the goodwill of foreign nations at this juncture. The advantages accruing to China from the districts immediately beyond the Settlement are slight, or non-existent. She derives no revenue from the foreign residents who are continually acquiring fresh property in these parts, and she experiences considerable difficulty, coupled with no small expense, in attempting even the inadequate measure of administration now in vogue. Sentiment, rather than practical disadvantages, prove the main obstacle to settlement extension. A formal demand to the Government from the foreign representatives must almost inevitably be met with a refusal, in view of the fact that such a step would give to the forces of opposition and unrest. On the other hand the Chinese living within the Settlement and beyond are not insensible to the advantages to be derived from living under Western administration. If their innermost feelings could be given free vent, they would be found strong supporters of extension. The growing lawlessness of these outlying districts, as well as the lack of the physical comforts available on this side of the boundary, is viewed with ever widening uneasiness. To these residents, therefore, we ought to be able to look for the first practical move towards a final and equitable adjustment of Settlement limits. A continuation of existing conditions points almost inevitably to an ultimate crisis, which it is in the interests of all parties to avoid. The incident furnished by the death of two innocent children at the hands of the Chinese police should provide a powerful lever for immediate action in the matter of the regulation of our boundaries.—*N. C. Daily News.*

JAPANESE COTTON YARN.

THE LOTTERY SCHEME.

The low market of silver, which recently touched 22d., has discouraged exporters of yarn, and the market has continued to decline. On Friday the quotation for silver slightly rose, the figures on the Osaka Yarn Exchange opening higher as a result. On Saturday a further rise was shown, the quotations on that day comparing with Friday's as follows:—

	Dec. 5.	Dec. 4.
December delivery	Y103.80	Y103.75
January	104.50	104.30
February	104.50	104.00

The proposal to continue the issue of prize tickets on the sale of yarn in China, the term for which expires at the end of this month, has received a check. As already mentioned the Shanghai Municipal Council has renewed the protest against the scheme, and the Japan Cotton Spinners' Association is now inclined to abandon the project. There is now little possibility of the scheme being continued after this month, and in the interests of spinners the decision to abandon this method of increasing the sale of yarn will be welcomed.—*Japan Chronicle.*

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

A meeting of the Legislative Council was held in the Council Chamber last Thursday. Present:—His Excellency the Governor, Sir Frederick Lugard, K.C.M.G., H.E. Major-General Broadwood, C.B., Hon. Mr. F. H. May, C.M.G., (Colonial Secretary), Hon. Mr. W. Rees Davies (Attorney General), Hon. Mr. A. M. Thomson (Colonial Treasurer), Hon. Mr. W. Chatham, C.M.G., (Director of Public Works), Hon. Mr. F. J. Badeley, (Captain Superintendent of Police), Hon. Mr. E. A. Irving (Registrar General), Hon. Dr. Ho Kai, M.B., C.M.G., Hon. Mr. Wei Yuk, C.M.G., Hon. Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C., Hon. Mr. W. J. Gresson, Hon. Mr. E. A. Hewett, Hon. Mr. H. A. W. Slade, and Mr. C. Clementi (Clerk of Councils).

MINUTES.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

FINANCE.

The Colonial Secretary laid on the table the report of the Finance Committee (No. 20).

FINANCIAL MINUTE.

The Colonial Secretary laid on the table Financial Minute No. 20. It was agreed that it be referred to the Finance Committee.

SANITARY BYE-LAWS.

The Colonial Secretary moved the adoption of Bye-laws under section 16 of the Public Health and Buildings Ordinance, 1903, relating to:—(a.) Bake-houses; (b.) Dairy; (c.) Importation and inspection of animals.

The Director of Public Works seconded.

Carried unanimously.

NEW TERRITORIES SMALL DEBT COURT.

The Attorney General moved the third reading of the Bill entitled An Ordinance to empower a Magistrate to hold a Small Debt Court in the New Territories and to regulate the proceedings in relation thereto.

The Colonial Secretary seconded.

Bill read a third time and passed.

MAGISTRATES ORDINANCE AMENDMENT.

Council considered in Committee the Bill entitled An Ordinance to amend The Magistrates Ordinance 1890 and to effect certain other amendments in the Criminal Law.

Council resumed and Bill reported with amendments.

On the motion of the Attorney General, seconded by the Colonial Secretary, the Bill was read a third time and passed.

ADJOURNMENT.

The Council was adjourned *sine die*.

FINANCE COMMITTEE.

A meeting of the Finance Committee was held immediately after the meeting of Council, the Colonial Secretary presiding. It was agreed to recommend that the following vote be adopted by the Council:—

HOSPITAL HULK "HYGEIA."

A sum of five thousand two hundred and seventy-five dollars in aid of the vote, Medical Departments, Hospitals and Asylums, Other Charges, Infectious Hospitals, Hospital Hulk *Hygeia*, for the following items:—

Repairs,	$1,608
Typhoon damages,	3,567
Total	$5,275

This was all the business.

PROPERTY FORECLOSED.

SUCCESSFUL ACTION BY THE HONGKONG FIRE INSURANCE CO.

The Hongkong Fire Insurance Company, Ld., brought an action in the Supreme Court, on the 17th inst., against Lo Kwong and the Yuen On Insurance Exchange Loan and Godown Co., Ltd., for an order to have an account taken of what is due to them for principal and interest under an indenture of mortgage on certain properties, and also to have the same foreclosed.

Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C., instructed by Mr. R. D. Atkinson, of Messrs. Deacon, Looker and Deacon, appeared for the plaintiffs. The defendants were not represented nor did they appear in person.

The plaintiffs, it was stated, were a company carrying on business at King's Buildings. The defendant (Lo Kwong) was a trader of 9, Bonham Strand West and the defendants the Yuen On Insurance Exchange Loan and Godown Co., Ld., of the same address. By an indenture dated 24th August, 1904, Lo Kwong assigned to the plaintiffs the property known and registered as Sub-section 1 of Section A of Marine Lot No. 95 and the remaining portion of Section A of Inland Lot 1,310 by way of mortgage to secure the repayment to the plaintiffs of the sum of $50,000 on the 24th August, 1907, and interest at the rate of eight per cent. per annum. The defendant, Lo Kwong, made default in payment of the interest reserved under the indenture and on the 25th June, 1907, the plaintiffs duly entered into possession of the properties under the power of the indenture and were in possession. Lo Kwong had made default in payment of the principal sum of $50,000 and had not paid the same or any part of it. The Yuen On Insurance Company, who were assignees of the equity of redemption of the properties by way of mortgage, had by an indenture dated 15th September, 1908, made between them and the plaintiffs, assigned to the plaintiffs all their interest in the properties.

Mr. Leafe, the secretary of the plaintiff company, corroborated the above, and added that the first defendant owed his firm $50,000, fire insurance premium, interest, &c.

The order was granted.

GAMBLERS MARVELLOUS ESCAPE.

JUMPED FIFTY FEET AND SLIGHTLY INJURED.

Falling fifty feet through space and landing on the street without sustaining any serious injury was the marvellous escape a coolie experienced at West Point last Wednesday night. Of course, the man was sent to hospital, suffering from a fractured leg, the only injury that could be traced.

The accident was the result of a gambling raid at 7, Torsien Street, which was engineered by Sergeant Brennan. There were something like forty men seated around tables, shaking their hard earned cents, when the officers entered the building. Immediately there was a stampede and the coolies made a rush in every direction to effect an escape. About thirty men succeeded in doing so, by way of cressing to the adjoining houses; over the verandah. One man, Chan Fuk, was unsuccessful, however. It is believed that in crossing he slipped and fell to the street. He landed on his feet, which saved him from instant death. The police captured thirteen men.

There were two other raids executed at about the same time—one at Wanchai, by Sergeant Devenay, and the other by Inspector Watt, at 2, Bulkeley Street, Hunghom. In the former raid fourteen men were taken from 7, Sun Street, and seventeen in the other.

The gamblers were charged in the Police Court, on Thursday morning, and the usual fines were imposed.

The Domicile Question.

CHIEF JUSTICE'S IMPORTANT PRONOUNCEMENT.

HONGKONG CERTIFICATES OF NATIONALITY OF NO VALUE WHATEVER.

The point raised in the Supreme Court the other day as to whether Wei Long Shan, the ex-assistant compradore of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, was domiciled in the Colony and entitled to be adjuged bankrupt, was decided by Sir Francis Piggott (Chief Justice) on the 17th inst. At the time the opposition applied to have the Receiving Order, which had already been granted him, rescinded, they put forward four grounds to strengthen their point, as under:

(1)—That the debtor was not domiciled in this Colony at the date of the presentation of the petition and that the Court had no jurisdiction to make a Receiving Order against him.

(2)—That the debtor had committed no act of bankruptcy on which a petition could be founded.

(3)—That after payment of the costs of the proceedings there would be no substantial assets for division among the creditors.

(4)—That the petitioning creditor was in collusion with the debtor and that the proceedings were an abuse of the process of this honourable Court.

In delivering his judgment, the Chief Justice said:—A judgment creditor applies to rescind the Receiving Order . . . . Four grounds of opposition were raised and my ruling with regard to them will serve as a good illustration of the general practice with regard to oppositions to petitions which I have sanctioned. The third was that after the payment of costs of the proceedings there will be no substantial assets for division among the creditors. That ground is not good because it is a matter which the Official Receiver considers and usually advises the Judge on the application. The fourth ground is that the petitioner is in collusion with the debtor and that the proceedings are an abuse of the process of the Court. This is also a matter which concerns the Official Receiver, who in this respect exercises a general surveillance over bankruptcy proceedings. The first ground is that the debtor was not domiciled in this Colony at the date of the presentation of the petition and therefore that the Court has no jurisdiction to make a Receiving Order. And the second was that the debtor has committed no act of bankruptcy on which a petition would be founded . . . . . At the first meeting of creditors the debtor made a statement that he was born in Hongkong. I see no reason to doubt this. This then makes him a natural born subject of the King, but in order to make this point clear (and it is an important point) a certificate of Sir George Bowen, then governor of the Colony, dated 31st July, 1884, was referred to. It was given under the seal of the Colony and was to the effect that, having examined two affidavits of birth, His Excellency was satisfied that Wei Long Shan, the debtor, was born in the Colony and therefore that he believed him to be a British subject. I understand that these certificates are issued in virtue of permissive instructions from the Secretary of State given in August, 1862. I have never seen one before and as it was referred to in the argument I must express my opinion on it. In an English port such a certificate is of no value whatever for any legal purpose. It refers to two affidavits of birth but by whom they were made does not appear. The proper person to issue certificates of birth, or to be more precise, sealed and certified copies of entries in his registers, is the Registrar-General and I am not sure, but I do not think that even these are made conclusive evidence of the facts contained in the entries. Then this certificate says that having read these two affidavits the Governor has satisfied himself that Wei Long Shan was born in the Colony and the Emperor of China being at amity with the Queen of England at that time the Governor believes him to be a British subject, but this is a *non requiter*. If the person to whom the certificate is given was born in the Colony he is a British subject. There is no ground for belief or disbelief. The fact is both the instructions of the Secretary of State and the opinion of the Law Officers have been misconstrued by the drafter of the form annexed to the instructions. The belief, the expression of which is sanctioned, is as to the fact of birth in the Colony from which the legal consequence of British nationality follows. It is very necessary that such certificates if they are to be issued at all should be drafted with extreme care. The idea on which they were allowed clearly was that nothing positive should be stated and the statement of belief must be limited to the fact of birth in the Colony. Otherwise the issue of the certificates may be attended with considerable danger for, I understand, that they are sometimes used by foreign consuls for use in foreign ports and it may well be that being under the seal of the Colony they would receive a larger measure of credence so far as the fact of birth is concerned than they are entitled to and in law they are open to two objections with regard to the statement of belief in British nationality. In the first place they ignore the possibility or rather probability that some of the recepients may be the unfortunate victims of double nationality, being Chinese as well as British subjects, and secondly there is a regular process for settling doubts as to nationality provided in the Legitimacy Declaration Act 1858. It is true that that Act probably does not apply to a Colony where the Court has no divorce jurisdiction as here but that makes it all the more necessary to issue certificates of nationality with the greatest caution lest they should be confused with those issued under that Act. There is also another process for quieting doubts as to the right of a person to be a British subject provided by section 7 of the Naturalisation Act. . . . It seems clear that in applying the test of domicile to any case the Court has regard to the English notions of domicile and therefore although domicile is obviously quite unknown to the Chinese we can, from the point of view of English law, talk of a Chinaman being domiciled in China. Further the ordinary rule applies that, unless a domicile of choice is proved the domicile of origin is that of his father at the time of his birth. I may therefore at once determine what the debtor's domicile of origin was. The debtor is 53 years old, so that he was born in 1855. The Colony was much too young in those days for me to assume that a Chinaman ever deliberately intended to acquire such a permanent home in the Colony as is necessary to the acquisition of domicile. The father's domicile was that of China at the debtor's birth and I have no evidence before me that his father changed his domicile and so his *son's* domicile before the debtor could acquire a new domicile for himself . . . . . His Lordship reviewed the evidence and proceeded: "On the debtor's statement there can be no doubt that he never acquired a permanent home in Hongkong. This illustrates my belief that hardly any Chinaman who is merely a trader here ever tears himself away root and branch from his family village in China which is what is required to establish a domicile in this Colony; the whole idea of a permanent establishment in Hongkong with a fixed determination never to return to the ancestral village otherwise than as a visitor seems to me inconsistent with the normal idea of a Chinaman. Nationality is not domicile nor domicile nationality. The two things have no relation to one another. Nationality may be evidence of a domicile of origin but it is not possible to go further than this. There is therefore not the slightest ground for the allegation that the debtor was domiciled in the Colony and the order must therefore be rescinded with costs against the petitioning creditor.

Mr. John Hastings appeared on behalf of the Bank of Taiwan, Ltd. (judgment creditors). Mr. R. D. Atkinson, of Messrs. Deacon, Looker and Deacon, represented the petitioning creditor, on whose petition the Receiving Order was made. Mr. H. L. Dennys was for the debtor.

JAPANESE SHIPPING SUBSIDIES.

VARIOUS VIEWS ON THE QUESTION.

PROBABLE STRUGGLE IN THE DIET.

The question of shipping subsidies bids fair to become a subject of much discussion in the forthcoming session of the Diet. The Government is understood to be keeping the utmost secrecy regarding its attitude on the question and therefore nothing definite is known to the public, but if an interview published in the *Hochi*, which is attributed to a responsible official, is to be credited, it will not be difficult to imagine the disposition of the authorities in the matter. The official in question remarks that whereas Great Britain possesses 18,000,000 tons of mercantile marine, America 4,800,000 tons, Germany 4,200,000 tons, and France 1,800,000 tons, Japan only possesses 1,000,000 tons. Even this tonnage includes a large percentage of old and obsolete ships which are practically useless for the purposes of active commercial competition. For this reason it will be necessary for Japan, at least for some years to come, to encourage the construction of better ships capable of competing favourably with those of other countries in point of speed and tonnage. With regard to the payment of a navigation subsidy, the contention has been put forward that although the larger shipping companies are enjoying the State grant under this system, smaller ship-owners are excluded from the enjoyment of the subsidy, as they are not in a position to build ships conforming to the subsidy qualifications. Such being the case, the Government has been urging an amalgamation among the smaller shipowners so as to enable them to enjoy the subsidy like the larger concerns, but, owing to the unfavourable condition on the economic situation, so far the proposal has been unsuccessful. It will thus be seen that in the present condition of the shipping industry of Japan protection to a certain extent is absolutely necessary. Those who are acquainted with the fact that in France, in Germany, and even in England a large amount of money is annually spent for the protection of the shipping trade [so far as England is concerned this is an error, the principal part of the payments to steamship companies being for mail services] will readily perceive why the expenditure should not be withheld in the case of Japan. It is true that the Japanese shipping trade is suffering from the effects of over-tonnage, but this is chiefly because a large number of ships are concentrated on the trade near home, while the distant oversea trade is neglected. If the Nippon Yusen Kaisha is able to declare its regular dividend even in a time of business depression like the present it is because the company is engaged in the European and Australian trade. Professor Tomizu, M.P., is of the opinion that a special bounty to regular lines in addition to the regular navigation subsidy is necessary, but the official quoted by the *Hochi* is of the opposite opinion. The latter subsidy may be dispensed with after the lapse of a certain period when a number of qualified ships have been built, but the bounty to regular lines is necessary to keep them going. For instance, the continued grant of bounties to the N.Y. K's European and the Toyo Kisen's American lines, the terms for which expire next year, are indispensable. As to the amount of subsidy to be granted these lines, the matter is now under investigation by the Department for Communications.

OPINION OF THE "YORODZU CHOHO."

Writing on the same subject, the *Yorodzu Choho* says that the amount of shipping subsidies annually granted by Japan reaches twelve million yen, which, in view of the depleted condition of finance, must be considered rather excessive. The question as to the continuance or discontinuance of the subsidies should therefore not be lightly regarded. The problem of shipping subsidies has been discussed in many civilised countries, and from the result of such discussions it would appear that the necessity or otherwise of shipping protection largely depends on the condition of the maritime trade of the country concerned. Generally speaking, the margin of profit accruing to the carrying trade in all countries tends gradually to narrow down owing to the growth of competition and with the exception of those who are trading under certain favourable conditions most of the shipping companies in the world seem to be in a rather bad plight. Since the saying that trade follows the flag holds good, however, it is clear that the extension of the shipping industry can hardly be neglected, and for this reason protection is indispensable. If such commercial countries of Europe as England, France, and Germany find the protection of their maritime trade necessary in different forms, it is well-nigh impossible to expect Japanese shipping people to compete successfully with their foreign rivals unprotected. Further, the condition of Japanese trade is so unfavourably circumstanced that it can make but little progress without Government protection. The present development of the country's commerce in China, North and South America, and other places owes much to the protection given to its shipping. If that protection is now withdrawn it is certain that the further growth of commerce will be arrested if it does not actually decline.

Although there exists a necessity for the protection of the maritime trade as set forth above, continues the *Yorodzo*, much of the benefit resulting from protection will be lost if the subsidised people do not honestly carry out the object for which the subsidies are granted. Even in a country like the United States, whose trade grows without artificial encouragement, there would seem to be a large number of people who are in favour of protecting the shipping trade, and a Bill for this object was introduced in Congress last spring. The Bill, however, failed to become law owing to disclosures of corruption resorted to by those interested. It is reported that the Japanese shipping companies are assiduously endeavouring by questionable means to win over the members of the Diet to their side, so that the Japanese Shipping Subsidy Bill shall be passed. If this is true the country should withhold protection from these companies because the subsidy fund in the hands of such people is more than likely to be misappropriated. It is advisable that the Government exact from these companies assurances that the subsidies will be honestly devoted to the purpose for which they are granted, and at the same time the authorities should enforce a more strict supervision over the use of the fund than has hitherto been the case. Otherwise the grant of shipping subsidies will be a waste of so much money.—*Japan Chronicle*.

New Peak Tramway.

THE PROPOSED ROUTE.

BISHOP POZZONI'S PETITION.

At the meeting of the Legislative Council last Thursday, the Hon. Mr. W. Rees-Davies, Attorney-General, said that he understood a petition was received from the Rt. Rev. Bishop D. D. Pozzoni, and the proper form was to read the petition to the Council. The Clerk of Councils read the petition, when the Hon. Mr. E. A. Hewett moved that the petition be heard by the Council, seconded by the Colonial Secretary. The petition reads as follows:—

In the matter of a Bill entitled an Ordinance for authorizing the construction of a Tramway "within the Colony of Hongkong,"

and

In the matter of the proposed route for the said Tramway.

The His Excellency the Governor and the Honourable the Legislative Council of Hongkong.

To humble petition of Domenico Pozzoni, Vicar-Apostolic of the Roman Catholic Church, on behalf of the Roman Catholic community of Hongkong.

Showeth:—

1. There is before the Legislative Council a Bill the object of which is to authorize the construction of a tramway from Victoria to the Peak.

2. The route of the said tramway is, your Petitioner is informed, proposed to be as marked in blue lines on the plan * hereto attached instead of the route marked on the said plan in red lines as originally proposed.

3. The Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception is the principal place of worship for the Catholic community of Hongkong and is situated on the east side of the Public Gardens.

4. Divine service or other religious observances take place daily in the said Cathedral.

5. It is essential to the due and reverent performance of such services and observances that there should be at such times an absolute absence of noise in such Cathedral and in the immediate neighbourhood thereof.

6. Your petitioner is informed that it is proposed to carry the said tramway for a considerable portion of its length on a steel trestle Viaduct 50 feet or thereabouts in height directly in front of the principal entrance to the said Cathedral and within 80 yards or thereabouts thereof, and your petitioner is informed and believes that the noise caused by cars passing over the guide pulleys will be so loud as to be distracting to the devotion of those engaged in prayer, or in other religious observances in the said Cathedral. And further that such distracting noise will be almost continuous when cars are running on the said tramway.

7. The said Roman Catholic community on behalf of which your petitioner presents this petition numbers upward of seven thousand persons.

Your Petitioner therefore humbly pray that the proposed route of the said tramway as marked in blue lines on the said plan be not approved and that your petitioner may be heard by Counsel in opposition thereto and have leave to call witnesses in support of such opposition when the said Bill comes before Your Excellency and the Legislative Council for consideration in Committee.

And your Petitioner as in duty bound will ever pray.

Dated the 30th day of November, 1908.

DOMENICO POZZONI,
Vicar-Apostolic of Hongkong,
on behalf of the Roman Catholic Community.

Sir Henry Berkeley, K.C., addressed the Council and said that he appeared by the gracious permission of the honourable body to support the petition by Bishop Pozzoni on behalf of the Roman Catholic community of the Colony. He was only going to briefly refer to the petition. In referring to the second paragraph of the petition, Sir Henry said that the route as originally proposed and as he respectfully submitted should be marked in red (plan produced). If it followed the blue route as marked on the plan, the line would pass Glenealy and into the heart of the valley for a considerable distance on a steel trestle some forty feet in height. It is the passing of the carriages over a steel viaduct which he had come to oppose. It was his humble wish that when the Committee would come to consider the plan, they would reject it. It was probably the experience of members of the Council of the noise which would necessarily follow in such a case. If the line was to be confined to the red route, it would carry the line all the way on a solid foundation. No noise then could be legitimately complained of. That part of the line would pass either underground or in deep cuttings which would occupy very little space. It was in the highest degree desirable and absolutely essential for religious performances to be conducted in quiet. The speaker was also instructed to mention a matter which was omitted in the petition. Immediately adjoining the premises of the Cathedral is a mission school. The noise (if noise there will be) as Mr. Denison would be able to convince the Council, would be extremely dislocating to the teaching in the school. He was also prepared to call evidence (also omitted in the petition). In close proximity to the Cathedral, there were also a number of houses occupied by tenants of the Mission. The proposed line would pass close to and slightly above these houses. The cars would not only run by day but also by night. There would be an inevitable invasion on the privacy of the inmates. This could only be prevented by shutting the windows which, the speaker declared, was impracticable in this climate. The grand result would be a depreciation in the value of property. He emphasized the fact that the Bishop was presenting the petition on behalf of 7,000 persons. The prayer of the petition was that the route marked in blue be not approved. He respectfully submitted that the route marked in red be adopted. He did not by any means presume to lay down a particular course to be followed by the Government but only opposed that portion of the route marked in blue. The revision of the plan, Sir Henry assured the Council, would not require any re-drawing of the plan.

The petitioner was then examined by Sir Henry Berkeley. Asked by Mr. Chatham in what part of the Cathedral the confessions were heard, the Bishop replied that occasionally they were heard near the proposed line but sometimes near the altar. There was no hard-and-fast rule; it depended on the number of the congregation.

Mr. Denison (of Messrs. Denison, Ram and Gibbs) said that he had examined and reported on the line. The line would pass about 80 yards away from the Cathedral. The cars would make a rattling noise when being worked. The fact that drums or pulleys would be used over a trestle bridge would make a sufficient noise to distract attention among the congregation.

Questioned by Mr. Pollock as to whether there was not any method other than a trestle bridge whereby the extent of the noise would be mitigated, Mr. Denison replied that it could be lessened by being worked on concrete. Re-questioned by the Governor, he said that it would still distract the worshippers.

* Not received.

Mr. Denison was further questioned by other members, at the conclusion of which, the petitioner left the Council Chamber.

H.E. the Governor said that a Bill was introduced several years ago which was very much different from the one they were considering now. During the course of his remarks, His Excellency said that it appeared to him that the principle involved in the matter under discussion was a question of aesthetics against utility. If the proposed tramway was going to prove of usefulness to the public, then nothing more need be said about the matter. If not, then it was the duty of the members to consider whether the line should at all be constructed. If the contemplated project were to become an actual fact, one of the most beautiful sceneries of the Colony would be destroyed. Unfortunately, Hongkong did not subsist on its sceneries; otherwise they would not mind so much trade depression. People came here for other purposes than sceneries. He did not propose to put the Bill to the vote, but to adjourn the debate till the next meeting, in order to enable members of the Council to speak on the subject. It was rather premature for clause 2 (which route the line is to take), but what would have been infinitely better was to have considered the general principle (whether the tramway was really wanted or not). The route marked in red would destroy a considerable portion of the public gardens and the blue route was chosen as inflicting the least injuries on the public gardens.

Mr. Hewett proposed that the discussion be adjourned till the next meeting, which was agreed to.

FOUND HANGING.

ILL HEALTH LEADS TO COOLIE'S SUICIDE.

17th inst.

Owing chiefly to the fact that his health had been failing recently, and also on account of shortage of funds, a coolie named Leung Kwan put an end to his life yesterday morning.

Leung was an earth coolie, employed by a contractor at Kowloon City, and resided with a number of others in quarters at 46, Wang Street. Early yesterday morning, it is reported, Leung did not go with the other men to work. He complained of feeling ill and he was left alone in the house. A few hours later when the workmen returned home for their meal Leung was found suspended to a rope—one end of which was fastened under his chin and the other to a beam of the ceiling. Death had already intervened.

The deceased, who was about forty years of age, managed somehow or other to get the rope round the beam, and, getting up on a stool, fastened the other end round his neck, after which he kicked away the support.

The matter was reported at the police station and the remains sent to the mortuary.

SATISFYING CREDITORS.

SCHEME OF COMPOSITION REFUSED.

Last Thursday, the Chief Justice gave a decision on the question of "preferential treatment" of creditors in the matter of the estate of Ho Shiu Chau, which was an application for the approval of a scheme of composition.

His Lordship, in refusing to sanction the scheme, said:—I am asked to sanction a scheme of composition by which it is proposed that sixty per cent. should be paid to the European creditors and twenty-five per cent. to the Chinese creditors. If all the Chinese creditors had been present at the meeting and had assented I suppose I should have had no option but to sanction the scheme, but it was passed only by the statutory majority and four Chinese creditors were not present. If I sanction this the meeting will be bound by it. I do not know of any duty which compels creditors to attend these meetings; if they are out of the jurisdiction they can only appoint a proxy. It is true they do not attend at their own risk but they are quite entitled to leave the matter to the other creditors because they know that the decision must come up for the approval of the Court. One thing they have a right to expect—equality of treatment—but here I am asked to sanction an agreement for differential treatment. I cannot sanction the scheme which would, had I not to sanction it, be illegal. The requisite statutory majority has not been obtained because the votes of the European creditors present were only given on condition that they should obtain a special advantage and they are therefore affected by undue prejudice.

Mr. Otto Kung Sing, who represented the debtor, Ho Shiu Chau, said that all the creditors had agreed to the composition.

The Official Receiver stated that there was opposition from the European creditors.

His Lordship stood by the decision he had given.

THE ORIGIN OF OPIUM.

SIR RAY LANKESTER.

That Europe is the original home of the opium-poppy, and not Asia, is even more contradictory of our settled traditions and belief than the fact that Europeans gave tobacco to the East. Yet it is the fact that opium, like tobacco, came to the Far East from Europe. The opium-poppy does not grow wild in Asia; it is a cultivated variety of a Mediterranean poppy, the Papaver setigerum, which has a pale purple flower, and was conveyed, long ago, by man from the Levant to Asia. We have true poppies of four species which grow wild in England, all with splendid scarlet or crimson petals, easily distinguished from one another by the shape of the seed-boxes, or capsules, which they form. If you scratch the surface of the seed capsule of one of these poppies a milky juice appears. It is this which is collected from the capsules of the much larger opium-poppy in India and China, and when dried forms a hard brown cake, which is called "opium." It consists of resinous matter, in which is contained a small quantity of the invaluable narcotic called "morphia," and also small quantities of other powerful poisons.

The pale-purple poppy of the Mediterranean (Papaver setigerum) was cultivated hundreds—even thousands—of years ago in the South of Europe and on the Mediterranean shores of Africa—not for opium, but for the oil which can be expressed from the seed, "poppy-seed oil." The oil is free from narcotic properties. The purple poppy is still cultivated for that oil in France, and poppy-seed oil is an article of commerce used as food, both in the pure state and for adulterating other oils. The earliest cultivation of this poppy is even as remote in Europe as 7,000 years, for we find that the Swiss lake-dwellers of the Stone Age cultivated it, and that the variety they obtained was nearer to the wild Papaver setigerum than to the modern opium-poppy, Papaver somniferum. How and when it first was recognised that the narcotic substance "opium" could be prepared from the juice exuding from the cut capsule is not exactly known, but it is probable that it was not until the early Middle Ages that the poppy was cultivated for the habitual use of opium as a narcotic indulgence, and that its earlier cultivation was as to some extent is the case at the present day, for the sake of the oil contained in the seed, its use in medicine requiring but a very small supply. The ancient Greeks were well acquainted with the cultivated poppy. Homer mentions it, and at a much later period Theophrastus and Dioscorides do so. They call it "mekon," and were aware of the somniferous properties of the sap. Dioscorides, whose wonderful book on plants dates from the first century of our era, speaks of the drug derived from the sap by the name "opos" and it is from that word that the name "opium" has come. The Romans cultivated the poppy before the republic, and mixed its seeds with their flour in making bread.

THE STORY OF KING TARQUIN

taking the governor of a rebellious province into a poppy field, lopping off the heads of the taller poppies with his stick, and then turning to his visitor, without a word but with a look which said, "That is the way to govern"—is evidence of the very early cultivation of the poppy by the Romans. Hebrew writings do not mention the opium poppy, though it seems to be certain that it has been cultivated in Asia Minor for at least 3,000 years. There is no evidence that the plant was cultivated in more ancient times in Egypt, although in Pliny's time the Egyptians used the juice of the poppy medicinally. In the Middle Ages it was, and in our own day it is, one of the chief objects of cultivation in that country, especially for the manufacture of opium.

The cultivated variety P. somniferum of the present day differs from the wild P. setigerum, in having the seed-capsule surmounted by ten or twelve stigmas (the free ends of the leaves which are united to form the capsule) instead of by eight as in the wild form. It seems that the introduction of the poppy from the shores of the Mediterranean into Persia, India, and China is due to Arab traders, and is coincident with the rise of Mohammedanism, and it is probable that it was valued and cultivated from that time onwards, not so much for the sake of its seed and oil, as for the narcotic juice, which was made up by Arabian "confectioners" into a kind of paste, and eaten, as were other vegetable extracts—such as "bang," from hemp—for the sake of the pleasurable effects produced by its poisonous action on the nervous system. It is certain that the opium poppy does not occur at all in the wild state in the Middle and Far East. In 1516 opium was already an article of trade from India to China. The poppy was cultivated, and the use of opium known and frequent in India for some five centuries before that date. Probably the cultivation of the plant in China was not stated until the eighteenth century.

It was the Chinese who hit upon the mode of indulging in opium by smoking it in a pipe. There is no record, written or pictorial, of this practice earlier than 1730, about fifty years before which date (1680) we find the smoking of tobacco represented on Chinese pottery. Very soon the Chinese were not content to import their opium from India but large areas were put under cultivation with the Indian poppy in China and Manchuria. For a century or more the export of opium from India to China continued and increased as the consumption of the drug increased, the native Chinese production not being sufficient to meet the demand. In 1730 and 1796 the Chinese Government issued

EDICTS FORBIDDING THE SMOKING

of opium, and in the last century the efforts of the Chinese authorities to prevent the importation of Indian opium, whether with a view to suppress a dangerous vice or to favour the home-grown article, led to war with England. In some parts of China—for instance, Amoy—three-fourths of the population are or were until lately, opium smokers. Now it is believed that the Chinese Government is genuinely determined to put a stop to the dangerous and enervating indulgence in this narcotic, and the opium-growers of India will have to limit their output and employ their land and labour for other crops.

It is the fact that the eating of opium (for it is not "smoked" there) does very little harm in India, since it is not used by a large proportion of the people nor in excess. Many persons who have studied the subject maintain that the widely-spread injury caused by opium in China is due to the short time during which it has been in use there as compared with India. It is held that a population after a few centuries becomes immune to such poisonous but attractive indulgences by the killing out of those who cannot resist excess—and the suggestion is that the simplest way of dealing with such cravings for poison is to let those who have them and cannot resist their demand freely indulge and die, and their stock with them. This is, however, a slow and tedious way of eradicating an evil tendency. It may perhaps be the only way, and hereafter, when the production by careful and restricted breeding of a sound and healthy population becomes recognised as being part of the duty of the makers and administrators of the law in civilised states, it is not improbable that we shall see something of the kind deliberately put into practice.

THE OPIUM PIPE

and the mode of smoking at present in use in China are very different from the pipe and smoking of tobacco used there or elsewhere. I investigated the matter myself twenty years ago in an opium-den near the London Docks, under the instruction of a polite Chinaman. The opium pipe has a very narrow cavity, about one-sixth of an inch wide. The prepared opium, in a condition resembling treacle, is smeared on the walls of the cavity with a pin, and the pipe is held to a lighted lamp. The flame drawn into the pipe causes the opium to frizzle and give off smoke, but it does not "light" and continue to burn. Each whiff which the smoker inhales has to be procured by applying the pipe to the lamp. The smoke is tasteless, and it requires a good deal of patience and several re-smearings of the inside of the pipe before the smoker begins to experience pleasant effects of the drug. These consist in the production of a sense of perfect contentment and indifference to all trouble and care, whilst the imagination gives a rose colour, or an even more alluring aspect, to all that one sees or thinks of—until a gentle sleep closes the scene.

The Chinese, having obtained the seeds, cultivated the opium poppy, and made opium before the prepared article was imported in any great quantity from India. There is, of course, no doubt as to the injury which is done to a population by the habitual use of opium. At the same time, there is no one who knows anything about medicine and the use of drugs who does not speak of opium with reverence and even affection. Forty years ago, at a dinner party where the leading physicians of London were present, it was suggested that they should each write down in order of merit the ten drugs to which they attached the greatest value. I heard from one who was present that they all put opium in the first place, and that mercury, iodide of potassium, and pecachuana followed in that order in the majority of the lists. The value of opium as a medicinal agent is one thing, its deadly effect on those who have become victims to its daily use is another. The origin of the medicinal use of opium can be traced to Egypt in Pliny's time, but beyond that nothing is known.

THE PEAK TRAMWAY BILL.

(18th December.)

After innumerable delays and adjournments, the private bill which has been promoted with this object of obtaining power to construct an additional cable tramway to the Peak came before the Legislative Council yesterday on the motion to go into Committee on the second reading. It is now nearly five years since a general outline of the tramway scheme was laid before the public through the columns of the *Telegraph*. Much water has passed beneath the bridges since that time, and the original plans have been ...ended practically beyond recognition. ...have no occasion to enter into the ...ersial matters which arose in connection with the acquisition of the line by Mr. Findlay Smith—who has ...elated how he travelled through ...d America in order to gain experience working of similar tramways abroad ... its very inception the scheme has ...cause of violent ruptures and sharp ...f opinion. It is not denied that a ...ramway to the Peak threading its ...hrough an area eminently suitable for ...ential purposes and at present remaining ...ched owing to the difficulty of access, ...d prove an undoubted public convenience. But, somehow, the proposal has been beset with troubles and it is only ...hat it has reached the stage when the ...n of the Legislative Council to proceed ...he work is considered necessary. That ...een one of two things: that the construction of the line is to begin forthwith or that the ...ters are taking steps to safeguard their ... Let us assume that the former is the ...for bringing the matter to a head before the ...l at this time. There can be no question ...e willingness of the Council to adopt the ...principle of the Bill. It is a popular ... in itself, even if the result of its ...s does not affect more than a fraction of the community. It is popular. ...It will tend to relieve the congestion ...e levels immediately above the central ...and possibly enable the middle-class ...a middle class Colony to participate ...the minor privileges enjoyed by the ...d their satellites. The principal ...hat has now to be decided is the ...o schemes have been framed—there ...een others and it is not at all outside ... of possibility that the final plan ...to the Legislative Council may have ...o alteration—and both of these ...ve aroused keen opposition. The first ...an esthetic consideration, in as much ...amenities of the public gardens were ...hed; while the second is objected to ... of the proximity of the line to the ...Catholic Cathedral and a number of ...g-houses in Glenealy. Obviously if the ...ay to pass along the Glenealy valley, and ...other way seems feasible if the tramway is ...p a most desirable area, either one or ...r of these objections will have to be dis...rded. The Roman Catholic authorities in ...gkong presented a petition against the ...submitted for the sanction of the Legisla...Council on two grounds; that the continual ...aud pounding of passing cars would ... the devotions of worshippers at ...Cathedral and distract the attention of ...ngaged in religious observances; and, ...t the line would be so situated that ...of those living in houses contiguous ...s would be shattered. With regard ...oliation of the public gardens, which ...d would result were the first plan to ...ed, it has always tickled our curiosity ... who those persons are who appreciate ... the beauties and scenic features of ...ens. It cannot be the amahs who lead ...rges to this delectable spot; it is hardly ... be the Chinese who have a "gar... their own—principally made up of ...tones—in the Western district; it cer...not the business men of Hongkong, ... people at the Peak look with disdain ...ntempt on the display of trees and ... Can it be the tourists, then, who view ... alarm and disfavour any scheme which ...uld detract from the glory of the gardens? ...ao, Hongkong as a tourist resort is a new ...ature in our limited experience. But, from ...all the signs, the tourists may keep their minds ...easy, for the original plan which aimed at ...interference with the public gardens is declared to involve engineering difficulties which render it an impossible proposition. The other route, that suggested as the one to be adopted, is anathematised by 7,000 church-goers; more or less. We are afraid, however, their objections will be over-ruled for, as His Excellency the Governor hinted yesterday, public utility must take precedence of private interests, and it is scarcely to be credited that the noise of a tramcar passing at a distance of 240 feet will seriously disturb the meditations of the devout. The argument that the houses adjacent to the line will be rendered uninhabitable, because the tramway passengers will inevitably seek to find out what is going on in the bedrooms is more to the point, but it also will have to go by the board. What would have happened if the House of Commons had listened to the appeals of those who sought to preserve that idyllic privacy when railway schemes for the opening up of industrial centres in Great Britain were under consideration? As for America, the elevated railroads in many cases pass so close to the houses that a passenger could comfortably shake hands with a friendly tenant. Yet the residents in these houses which are open to the view of millions annually do not seem to experience great discomfort owing to the publicity which has come upon them uncourted. Counsel for the petitioners asserted that it would be impracticable for the occupants of houses in Glenealy to remain secluded during the summer months, because the windows of the houses situated there would have to remain open. How do the people in New York, where the summer heat is ten to twenty degrees higher than it ever is in Hongkong, manage to avert the public gaze? Not that we do not sympathise with those who have to bear in mind the fact that if they open their curtains to admit the friendly breeze they also invite the cold eye of impersonal criticism, but when the interests of hundreds are pitted against the qualms of a score then the latter must necessarily give way. So that, as far as we can see, the Council will be compelled however reluctantly to ignore the objections to the 3rd clause of the Bill defining the route, unless, of course, some genius evolves a practicable scheme which involves none of the difficulties enumerated. The Bill is a non-party one and for once the official members of the Council are to be, to quote the Governor, "able to vote upon it entirely unfettered." Meanwhile the discussion has been adjourned in order that members may have an opportunity of finding out current opinion on the subject. Seeing that the scheme has been before the public in all its aspects for years it is strange if current opinion has not crystallised long ago, but we have become so accustomed to delays in connection with the measure that a week or two here or there is not of great importance. The chief point is that the Bill has reached the crucial stage, and once that is passed it will be assigned on the statute book as a matter of course, and we may then look forward to the inauguration of the work of constructing the new line to the Peak.

SIKH WATCHMEN.

Little has been heard in Hongkong of late of the vagrant Sikhs who make the Colony a happy hunting ground. Probably that is not due to any marked reformation in the character of those Indians who have no settled occupation in the Colony but rather to their recognition of the wisdom of lying low, in order that their besmirched characters may be temporarily renovated. Even the money lenders have not been so prominent, owing, perhaps, to the salutary advice given by the Bench to those usurers of Indian origin. We do not for a moment believe, however, that the watchmen are in any respect more watchful than they were in the past or that the money lenders have taken themselves and their rapacious maws to other haunts. The former still drone and doze away the stilly nights, while the latter put the screw on the unfortunate victims who fall into their hands in more scientific fashion. If the truth were told, it would probably be found that half the more important burglaries recorded in the police annals of Hongkong are due to the known lethargy of the Sikh watchmen, when they are not directly traceable to their connivance and instigation. As for the puppets who borrow money at exorbitant rates of interest from the thrifty Indians they still abound and suffer the fate of those who deliberately walk into the meshes of insolvency and degradation. In Shanghai, the evils which spring from the malpractices of alleged Sikh watchmen have long been noted and consideration has been given to the possibility of dealing with them. That there are watchmen who attend to their duties with all the vigilance which they would devote to the preservation of their own property is probably quite true, but unless report lies they must be in the minority. Now steps have been taken to weed out the Indian undesirables in the Northern Settlement, and perhaps Hongkong may follow the example set forth. In a report to the Shanghai Municipal Council, the Captain Superintendent of Police warns the public against the promiscuous employment of Sikhs as watchmen. He states that there are many Sikhs loafing about the Settlement who are not in any way suitable for employment as watchmen, and that it is disheartening for the police to find Sikhs who have been dismissed from the force for continued drunkenness and misbehaviour obtaining employment as watchmen a few weeks after dismissal. In order to protect the public the Assistant Superintendent for Indians keeps a register of all Indian watchmen who are employed through him. The names of these men on the register are also furnished to the Police Station in the district where they are employed. Such watchmen are visited every two hours whilst on duty, by either a foreign policeman or an Indian police sergeant, who require the watchman to sign the book at each visit, and this book is checked every month at the police station. This system has been inaugurated at the request of several residents and adds considerably to the work of the police. It has been made necessary by the large number of unemployed and shiftless Sikhs who are found in the Settlements. We are not sure, says the *Shanghai Times*, that these men deserve as much attention as the Captain Superintendent of Police proposes to bestow upon them. If it were possible to deport them and prevent their return to Shanghai, the community would be much benefited; but if this is impossible, we know no better system than that which has been devised. It is to be hoped that all residents who employ Sikhs as watchmen will adopt the present system. It will be noted by the Hongkong authorities that the work of attending to the watchmen and registering them at the Police Station adds considerably to the work of the police, but that does not mean to say it implies an increase in the number of those on the police force. Indeed, it would only be a sort of relaxation for the sergeants on night duty to see that the watchmen were awake, although we do not suppose that they would regard the system from exactly the same point of view. At the same time, if the scheme is workable in Shanghai there is no reason why it should not be tried in Hongkong for a change.

Telegrams.

"HONGKONG TELEGRAPH" SERVICE.

THE "FATSHAN" INCIDENT.

ANOTHER HEARING.

[*By courtesy of the "Sheung Po."*]

Canton, 13th December.

Viceroy Chang Jen-chun gave instructions to-day to the Namhoi district magistrate to get the relatives of the deceased and all witnesses ready, as His Excellency has communicated with the Portuguese Consul asking him to fix a date for the hearing of the case in the Portuguese Consular Court.

RAILWAY LOAN.

A LINE IN THE HUKWANG PROVINCES.

[*By courtesy of the "Sheung Po."*]

Peking, 13th December.

H.E. Chang Chih-tung has memorialized for the appointment of a Commission to negotiate a loan in England for the construction of a railway within the Hunan and Hupeh Provinces.

He has telegraphed to Viceroy Chen Kwei-lung to send a deputy to Peking to arrange the terms of the Agreement.

Later.

H.E. Chang Chih-tung has telegraphed to the Viceroy of Hukwang Provinces to stop the construction of the railway within the province under his administration pending the receipt of further instructions.

COMPULSORY EDUCATION.

TO BE INSTITUTED NEXT YEAR.

[*By courtesy of the "Sheung Po."*]

Peking, 13th December.

The Prince Regent has given instructions to the Ministry of Education to enforce compulsory education from the first moon next China New Year.

Telegrams.

CANTON-HANKOW RAILWAY.

A BRITISH LOAN

[*By courtesy of the "Sheung Po."*]

Peking, 14th December.

Mr. J. O. P. Bland, representative of the British and Chinese Corporation, had an interview with Grand Councillors Chang Chih-tung and Yuan Shi-kai concerning the raising of a loan for $20,000,000 at four per cent interest repayable within fifty years by instalments.

The money will be required for the construction of the Hunan-Hupeh section (of the Canton-Hankow Railway).

As soon as Kao Ling-wei, Viceroy Chen Kwei-lung's deputy, arrives in Peking, the agreement will be concluded.

H.E. Chang Jen-chun, Viceroy of the Two Kwang provinces, has the credit of having settled at last the much-vexed question of ways and means for the construction of the Yueh-Han (Canton-Hankow) Railway. In his memorial to the Throne the other day, the Viceroy states that the length of the proposed Railway within the boundaries of the Two Kwang provinces alone is about 500 miles, for the construction of which there is no money, owing to the opposition against the contraction of a foreign loan. The successful inauguration of the work on the Tientsin-Pukow Railway has, however, shown that a foreign loan does not necessarily put the control of a Railway into the hands of foreigners, it being only necessary to see to it that the loan agreement entered into between borrower and lender be properly and carefully drawn up, so as to keep the control in the hands of the former and not of the latter. In the circumstances it would be well to take advantage of a former understanding between Kwangtung province and the British Government, by which Kwangtung consents to give the first refusal of a loan for the construction of a railway in that province to British capitalists. Viceroy Chang Jen-chun informs the Throne that he has consulted with the Waiwupu and also obtained the consent of Viceroy Chên Ku'ei-lung, of the Hukuang provinces, and Governor Tsên Ch'un-mieg of Hunan (through which provinces the Canton-Hankow Railway will pass) to contract a British loan. In this connection the memorialist believes that two of the memorialists' deputies Tseng Kuang-yung and Kao Ling-wei have been instructed to draw up a loan agreement for the Canton-Hankow Railway. The memorialist expects to have this Agreement settled within ten days of the first conference between the respective representatives, in which case he will again present a detailed memorial on the subject. An Imperial Rescript has now been issued sanctioning Viceroy Chang Jen-chun's memorial and commanding the Waiwupu, the Viceroy of Hukuang and the Governor of Hunan to take note of the circumstance.—*N. C. D. News.*

FATSHAN-KONGMOON RAILWAY.

SANCTION REFUSED.

[*By courtesy of the "Sheung Po."*]

Peking, 14th December.

The petition of the Yuet-han Railway Co. for permission to build the Fatshan-Kongmoon railway has been refused by the Ministry of Posts and Communications.

PRINCE REGENT'S SEAL.

A NEW ONE ORDERED.

[*By courtesy of the "Sheung Po."*]

Peking, 14th December.

The Government has directed the Board of Ceremonies to have a gold seal struck for the use of the Regent, in which the words "Prince Regent's Seal" will be engraved

AUDIENCE.

OBSERVANCES BY OFFICIALS.

[*By courtesy of the "Sheung Po."*]

Peking, 14th December.

It has been decided that, when the Regent receives officials in audience, those at the Capital of the third rank, provincial officials of the second rank, and military officials of the second rank and above may be seated.

All other officials will have to stand aside whether when making reports or asking questions.

CHINESE IN AMERICA.

POLL-TAX ABOLISHED.

[*By courtesy of the "Sheung Po."*]

Washington, 14th December.

The United States Government has agreed to grant passports to Chinese to enter the States; it has also abolished the poll-tax.

A telegram to this effect has been despatched to the Chinese Government.

Telegrams.

FOOCHOW RACES.

FIRST DAY'S RESULTS.

[*From Our Own Correspondent.*]

Foochow, 14th December, 2.20 p.m.

The first day's races, held under the auspices of the Foochow Jockey Club, were run to-day.

The results are appended:—

Stewards' Cup.—Half a mile

Mr. Oswald's Gamechick... 1

The Maiden Stakes.—Three-quarter mile

Mr. Min's Piper..... ...1

The Totalisator Cup.—One and three-quarter miles

Father O'Flynn's Mohawk... 1

The Min Stakes. One mile and a quarter.

Capt. Hope's Marvellous 1

The "Oswald" Challenge Cup. One mile.

Mr. Ewo's Heraldic 1

The Teamen's Cup. Twice round and a distance.

Mr. Min's Kandahar Chief... 1

The Mandarin's Cup. Seven furlongs.

Mr. Min's Piper.

SECOND DAY'S RESULTS.

Foochow, 15th December. 2.25 p.m.

The Winter Stakes. One mile.

Mr. Powell-Grant's Raffles... 1

The Big Sweep Cup. Seven furlongs.

Mr. Ewo's Heraldic 1

The Haekwan Cup. One round.

Capt. Hope's Capital 1

The Hongkong Cup. One mile and a half.

Capt. Hope's Superb 1

The "Dash" Cup. Once round and a distance.

Father O'Flynn's Kirkby ... 1

The Compradore's Cup. One mile and a half.

Capt. Hope's Marvellous ... 1

The Foochow Stakes. One mile and a quarter.

Mr. Ewo's Heraldic.

THIRD DAY'S RESULTS.

Foochow, 16th December, 2.10 p.m.

The Chaasze Cup. One mile and a quarter.

Capt. Hope's Capital 1

The Criterion Stakes. One mile.

Father O'Flynn's Kirkby ... 1

Ladies' Purse. Three quarters of a mile.

Capt. Hope's Capital 1

The Consolation Cup. One mile.

Mr. Min's Frosty Morn..... 1

The Manchu Stakes. Once round.

Mr Wallaby-Wallaby's Kangaroo..... 1

The Champion Stakes. One mile and a quarter.

Mr. Ewo's Heraldic... 1

The Ledger Cup. Three quarters of a mile.

Capt. Hope's Spots. 1

TANG SHAO-YI.

TO CONTINUE HIS MISSION.

[*By courtesy of the "Sheung Po."*]

Peking, 16th December.

Prince Ching has telegraphed to H.E. Tang Shao-yi and to his younger son stating that the Special Commissioner need not return at once.

His Excellency may continue to prosecute his mission in the United States and to study the form of government obtaining in the country, at the conclusion of which he is to return to Peking.

CONSTITUTIONAL GOVERNMENT.

A FIRST STEP.

[*By courtesy of the "Sheung Po."*]

Peking, 16th December.

The Prince Regent has decided to form a cabinet as a first step towards the institution of constitutional government.

A CHINESE BUDGET.

PRINCE REGENT'S INSTRUCTIONS.

[*By courtesy of the "Sheung Po."*]

Peking, 16th December.

The Prince Regent has urged Duke Tsai, president of the Ministry of Finance, to frame a budget of revenue and expenditure for the Empire.

Telegrams.

OBITUARY.

AN EX-MINISTER DEAD.

[*By courtesy of the "Sheung Po."*]

Peking, 16th December.

A telegram has been received from Hangchow advising that ex-Grand Councillor Wong Man Shiu died at his residence on the 15th inst. from old age and infirmity.

FOREIGN LOANS.

TO BE DISCOURAGED.

[*By courtesy of the "Sheung Po."*]

Peking, 17th December.

The Board of Revenue has issued instructions to the Viceroys and Governors of the various Provinces not to raise more foreign loans in future.

ITALY AND CHINA.

PROPOSED CONSULATE AT MENGTSZ.

[*By courtesy of the "Sheung Po."*]

Peking, 17th December.

The Italian Minister in Peking has forwarded a communication to the Waiwupu asking to be allowed to establish an Italian consulate at Mengtsz.

PRINCE REGENT'S RESIDENCE.

PARSIMONY IN EXECUTING REPAIRS.

[*By courtesy of the "Sheung Po."*]

Peking, 17th December.

The Prince Regent has instructed Chang Pik and others, who had received orders to repair his residence, to exercise strict economy and not spend too much money.

ARSENIC POISONING.

CHINESE WOMAN ON TRIAL FOR HER LIFE.

Heung Kau, a woman of about forty years of age, the wife of the late Indian money-lender and cattle dealer of Kowloon City—Bhola Singh—was placed on trial in the Police Court, last Thursday, on a charge of having murdered her husband, by administering poison to him on the 25th November last.

The evidence of Mr. Frank Browne, Government Analyst, was that on the day in question he received from Dr. Bell a vomit, marked Bhola Singh. He examined and separated it and found 9/20th of a grain of arsenic. On the following day he received from his assistant some cooking utensils and a plate which contained food. On examination, they were found to contain arsenic as follows: Exhibit A (plate) 84 grains; B (a bowl) traced; C (the spoon) nil; D (old vomit) 7½ grains; E (a pot) nil; F (a brimstone) nil; G (wooden barrel) nil. Witness separated some of the arsenic from A, which contained 7/8ths of arsenic. On the food he witnessed a few gritty articles which turned out to be sandy crystals, which were usually to be found in native arsenic.

A parcel was handed to the witness by Deputy Superintendent of Police King (prosecuting) and he said it contained a lump of native arsenic.

Mr. King—Can you say if the arsenic you found in the food had been boiled with it?—I can't.

Did you find any trace of arsenic in the pot? No. There was no sign of it in the rice water.

Do you think that if arsenic had been boiled in the pot and the pot was later washed, you would trace the poison?—If the pot once contained arsenic and it had been washed out in the ordinary way and then used to boil rice with I should expect to find traces of the arsenic in the rice water. But I found none there.

How many grains is sufficient to kill?—Three grains is a highly dangerous quantity. Three grains has killed man.

The Court—For an average man the amount would be dangerous for him to take?—Oh, yes.

Do you know what arsenic is used for among the Chinese?—I do not.

Do you know if the tanners here use it?—I don't. It is used in China in tanneries.

You don't know if it is used in Hongkong in tanneries?—No.

Detective Sergeant Terrett was the next witness. He spoke to taking the defendant to the hospital when the dying deposition of Bhola Singh was taken in her presence. The statement was translated to her by Mr. Tsang, the Ha-ka interpreter of the Magistracy.

A lad named Wai Tai Fook, fourteen years of age, who was engaged by deceased the day before the tragedy, to look after his goats was next called. He said he lived at Chin Sum, a village near Sha-tin. He knew Bhola Singh, as they were related. He also knew the defendant as *tai ku*.

The Court—Bhola Singh is dead now, isn't that so?

The youth replied that he did not know.

A few days before "this thing," happened, the witness went on, he went to work for Bhola Singh. On the day in question, he had his morning meal with the defendant in the kitchen, and left the house shortly afterwards to watch the goats. Bhola Singh was not in the house then. Witness was not aware if anybody had called at the house that morning before breakfast. While he was attending to the goats the defendant appeared in the roadway and called witness, handing him a plate of food to take to Bhola Singa in the cowsheds. There were only three persons in the house when the food was being cooked—the defendant, her daughter and himself.

The case was adjourned.

RETURN of visitors to the City Hall Library and Museum for the week ending the 13th December, 1908:—

	Library.	Museum.
Non-Chinese	321	146
Chinese	183	2,033
Total	504	2,179

Spitting Nuisance.

FURTHER DISCUSSION AT THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

UNOFFICIALS DEFEATED.

Further discussion took place by members of the Legislative Council last Thursday regarding the proposed legislation which will make spitting a punishable offence in the Colony. Dr. Ho Kai's motion to defer action for six months once more came up before the Council, when the two sides of the question were once more presented.

His Excellency referred to the value of posting public notices and including the subject of expectorating in lectures about sanitation and hygiene. He trusted the Council would not go against Chinese prejudice, but on the other hand to act in conjunction with Chinese co-operation.

Mr. Pollock said that he concurred with Dr. Ho Kai's sentiments which the hon. senior unofficial member had expressed on the last occasion. He said that the majority of the unofficials was agreed that the time was not ripe to grant power even at the end of six months to introduce actual legislation. Educational measures should be taken first.

Mr. Slade said that a great deal could be done in the matter without Government taking action. If the different measures advocated by the unofficial members were found not to work, then the Government could act by all means.

The Colonial Secretary was in favour of legislation being resorted to without further delay.

The Hon. Mr. W. J. Gresson said that he did not wish the Chinese to be under the impression that they would be put into prison if they were found indulging in the filthy habit.

A division was taken, all the unofficials with the exception of Mr. Hewett being in favour of a postponement and all the officials against.

MERCHANTS IN DIFFICULTIES.

INTERESTING PUBLIC EXAMINATIONS.

There were several petitions made before the Chief Justice (Sir Francis Piggott) in the Bankruptcy Court, on the 17th inst., and a number of public examinations gone through.

The first debtor to take the stand was So Yut Sun, *alias* So Sum, and he stated that the decrease in the value of property in the Colony was responsible for his failure. His assets were $700 and liabilities about $1,500.

In answer to questions by the Official Receiver debtor stated that he was a trader, lately of 39, Square Street. His particular business was buying and selling property. Previously he carried on a brick, tile and timber trade, under the name of the Sam Choi Co., Ltd. He was managing director, and left on August 15th, when he filed his petition in bankruptcy. He started into the property business in 1901, with a capital of $6,000 or $7,000. Altogether he purchased several houses, making some profit, but, he added, he lost money all the same. He attributed his bankruptcy to the fact that the value of property had decreased in the Colony and also because he had no money to get back the property which he had mortgaged. The Sam Choi Company owed him over $2,000, which was disputed.

The public examination closed.

A LOSING CONCERN.

The managing partner of the Wa Hop Tung Kee firm, of 150, Queen's Road East, was next examined. The business carried on was building matsheds, he said. There were six partners originally, three having died recently. He attributed his bankruptcy to this—that he was unable to recover outstanding debts, which amounted to $2,600, and bad business. His liabilities were $11,555. If he got in all the debts there would not be enough to cover the liabilities. He could not say, without looking at the books, how much money he drew from the firm last year. Besides his share in the business he had no other property. He had a contract with the Railway Company to build bridges, etc., for over $1,000. There was never any dispute between debtor and his partners, because he rendered his accounts every year. There were no profits made since the business started; therefore there could be no dividends. Only this year he could not pay his debts in full.

The Official Receiver—Then what do you mean by saying that the firm was heavily in debt?

The Chief Justice—This man is talking nonsense.

The debtor was excused, and another partner called. He said that he had three shares of $100 each in the business, but he never managed it. Not a cash of profit did he receive, the witness remarked with some emphasis. When he asked for his share he was put off from year to year.

The Official Receiver—Then do you know what became of the profits?

Witness—The first witness stole all. Didn't I take a policeman to the shop?

Do you know that some of the property was sold by auction?—He didn't tell me that.

What about the contract with the railway he was telling me about?—I know nothing about it.

Didn't you come and tell me that there were $10,000 worth of goods at Shatin?—I was told so.

Are you friends with the first witness?—No.

Do you know if there is any more property outstanding?—I don't.

The Official Receiver said that there was some property outstanding, but he could not get hold of it. The examination was not closed.

MANDARIN INTERPRETER'S AFFAIRS.

Chu Hok Lum was the next debtor to come up. He said he formerly had a business as commission agent. Now he was interpreter and translator to a Chinese mandarin. Debtor was for a time a teacher in Queen's College. After resigning that post he started the commission agent business, under the name of Edwards, Piry and Co., debtor holding $5,000 in shares. Four years ago the firm failed. His liabilities amounted to $60,000, money borrowed by him for his business. The assets were $247.

The Official Receiver—That won't be able to pay the costs, my Lord!

The Chief Justice—Yes.

The examination was not concluded.

A CHEE AND COMPANY'S FAILURE.

A Chinese lady, Chan Ah Kam, formerly proprietress of A Chee and Company, was the next to be examined on the firm's failure. She said that the business came to her on the death of her husband. She did not manage the business herself, but left it in the hands of the executors. After Chan On Hing's (her younger brother's) death she engaged her son to look after the business. Then the firm owed something like $20,000 odd. The assets were $20,000 or $30,000, being the value of the goods. The business was then run at a loss and she had to borrow money.

The Official Receiver—How did the business lose money? Did your son squander it?

Debtor—No. He owed a lot of money and had to pay, and business then was not flourishing.

When your husband died what property he left you?—Only the shop.

When did your husband die?—Twenty-eight years ago.

Did he leave a will?—Yes.

The examination was adjourned.

International Opium Conference.

HONGKONG'S REPRESENTATIVE.

MR. CECIL CLEMENTI NOMINATED.

In accordance with instructions from the Secretary of State for the Colonies, His Excellency the Governor has been pleased to nominate Mr. Cecil Clementi as representative of Hongkong, to assist the British Imperial Delegates at the forthcoming International Conference on Opium at Shanghai.

Mr. Clementi, who is the author of the now famous memorandum on the consumption of opium in China and Hongkong, has devoted himself to a thorough and conscientious study of the opium question, both scientifically and commercially. His exhaustive researches into this absorbing question, with special reference to Hongkong and its revenue, should stand him in good stead as the Colony's representative at the Conference.

CHINESE SUGGESTIONS.

CANTON'S REPRESENTATIVE.

With regard to the International Opium Conference, His Honour Tsai Nai-huang, the Shanghai Taotai, has made the following suggestions:—

(1) The Liangkiang Viceroy shall appoint the Shanghai Taotai to represent him at the Conference, in addition to those appointed by the Central Government, as the Conference is to be held in Shanghai.

(2) Great Britain and China are more interested in the abolition of the opium trade than any other countries, and as the British Government has appointed five Commissioners, the Chinese Government shall also appoint at least five Commissioners. The Chinese Commissioners must be skilled in diplomacy and have sound judgment.

(3) As the cultivation of poppy and the sale and consumption of opium are the questions to be brought up for discussion at the Conference, the Chinese Government shall find out the number of persons who have given up the opium-smoking habit and the extent of the decrease of the acreage of poppy under cultivation, in order to enable the Chinese Commissioners to answer questions that may be put to them by the foreign Commissioners.

STRAITS CRITICISMS.

Here and there in recent telegrams we note indications that the agitators in England who have made antagonism to the Asiatic consumption of opium their pet hobby—perhaps obsession might be the better word—are leaving no stone unturned to endeavour to gain their purpose of coercing the Government into instant interference with the excise revenues of the Crown Colonies. What seems to have frightened them into a spasm of activity is the fact that Mr. Clementi's paper, showing that only two per cent of the population of China were opium smokers, has reached England. The best indication of the confusion into which that document has thrown the ranks of the anti-opium agitationists, was the effort made by Mr. Alexander, the official mouthpiece of the agitation, to traverse Mr. Clementi's statistics in a letter to this journal. Our readers will recollect the rejoinder made in a leading article to that letter. It is enough to say that the Editor of the *Pall Mall Gazette*, with these before him, declared that we had dealt effectively with Mr. Alexander in defence of Mr. Clementi. The agitationists appear to be mortally afraid lest the truth come to the notice of the British public, and that their campaign of misrepresentation and exaggeration should be exposed in its real light. And so it is that they have started importuning the Government again to act in advance of any evidence that the Hongkong Government could provide, or that might be supplied by the Straits Opium Commission, whose report is understood to have gone home to England, or, again, that might result from the deliberations of the forthcoming International Conference at Shanghai. That course of action, which desires to condemn first and take evidence afterwards, is very precisely typical of that class of mind that permits its fad to verge on monomania. The mind that respects judicial processes, and desires its action to be based on the deductions that may be derived from scientific investigation, would recoil from clamouring to have its own views adopted in advance, when there were presently to be available the conclusions of Commissions and Conferences, constituted of impartial and representative men selected as the persons best qualified to inquire and report on the question. It is a "stone-him-to-death" frame of mind, impatient to tear the accursed thing to pieces without trial or the formula of a legal finding. We read of the attack on the Government beginning by Mr. Taylor, in reply to whose interrogation about the Straits Opium Commission Colonel Seely replied that the Straits report had not yet been received, and that, in regard to Hongkong, the Governor's modified proposals were now on the way to England. Col. Seely added that "in the meantime it had not been possible to take action." That was on November 18th. On the following day, the 19th, as reported in a telegram of the 20th, we read as follows in a Reuter's telegram despatched to India:—

"Thirty members of Parliament interested in the opium question have conferred together privately. They advocate the suppression of the opium trade in the Crown Colonies at the earliest possible moment. It is reported that a propaganda in this respect is to be instituted in the House of Commons and throughout the country prior to the forthcoming conference at Shanghai in January."

If the agitation was as honest as it pretends to be, why this unholy zeal to precipitate the Government into action prior to the forthcoming Conference at Shanghai? And why is the Government to be rushed into a policy, certainly ruinous to this already unfortunate Colony, before it can receive what moral support might be afforded to it by the result of the deliberations of the Shanghai International Conference? The indecent haste of the agitationists displays, one would say, a secret conviction that their case is not what it would like to be taken to appear, and that it is mortally afraid of being found out as a machinery for the propagation of deliberate exaggerations, to use the mildest term available. The latest information to hand is the official telegram to the Governor of Hongkong from the Secretary of State and also despatched through Reuter, to the effect that "The Imperial Opium Conference has been postponed until February 1 in accordance with the wishes of China in consequence of the death of Their Majesties the Emperor and Empress-Dowager of China." If the Imperial Government should prove so unfaithful to its trust, and so callously indifferent to the welfare of a Crown Colony as to permit itself to be influenced by the vehement adjurations of a clique of violently prejudiced persons, as to afflict us with directions hostile to our revenues before procuring the authorisation of the International Conference and before considering the report of the Straits Opium Commission, we can only say that the sooner the country sweeps so unworthy an administration out of place and power the better for the Empire at large, and the better for this Colony in particular.—*Singapore Free Press.*

The Shanghai Taotai, His Hon. Tsai Nai-huang, has forwarded the recommendations of his legal advisers published in these columns the other day to the Viceroy with the following remarks thereon. With regard to the suggestion that the Viceroy should appoint him as his representative at the Conference he says that he entirely agrees with it. As to the recommendation that China should have five representatives at the Conference, the same number as England, he submits that it be referred to Peking, for he has, in pursuance of the instructions of the Board of Finance, already appointed deputies to make investigations and will press them for a report if desired and that during the 14 months prior to November 1908, there were 1,461 cases of small native opium and 11,984 cases of large native opium imported into Shanghai as compared with 2,324 and 13,790 respectively during the preceding period of 14 months.—*Shanghai Times.*

THE CHEUNG-SHA-WAN TRAGEDY.

ALLEGED MURDERER BEFORE A JURY.

Chu Yuen Fuk, the alleged murderer of Choi Yuen, who met his death at Cheung-sha-wan some time last month, stood for his trial at the Criminal Sessions, which opened yesterday morning—the Chief Justice presiding.

The Attorney-General (Mr. W. Rees Davies, K.C.) with whom was Mr. Dennys (of the Crown Solicitor's office) appeared for the Crown, while Mr. R. E. Bellilios, instructed by Mr. Leo. d'Almada e Castro, was for the defence.

The jury empanelled was as follows:—Messrs. T. P. Hall (foreman), H. Reeves, H. T. Richardson, J. P. Ulderup, D. A. Purvis, H. Gittins and F. Ellis.

The alleged facts of the case were outlined to the jury by the Attorney-General. He said that the deceased man lived at Cheung-sha-wan. The murder took place on the 27th November. The prisoner and the deceased lived together in an un-numbered house, and the murder was the result of a quarrel. The principal witness in the case would state that he had a habit of going to this house. On the afternoon of the 25th ulto. he went to the house and while there a dispute arose between the prisoner and the deceased over the sum of one dollar and fifty cents, which the deceased alleged prisoner had stolen. The two men quarrelled and fought. At that time it was not suggested that any knives were used. The next morning, at about 9.30 o'clock, the prisoner returned to the house and found deceased sitting up in bed. They quarrelled again over the money and they were still at it when the witness called. He saw the prisoner produce a knife. The deceased man ran out of the house. The prisoner pursued him, the witness following, and he saw the prisoner caught deceased by the queue and stabbed him. It appeared that deceased held on to prisoner's queue and called "Save life." The witness ran up and seized prisoner, taking away the knife from him, and he also called for assistance. Shortly after a man came up with a rope and between them they bound the prisoner and took back deceased to the house. This story, the Attorney-General pursued, would be corroborated by a woman.

The only question the jury had to decide was whether it was murder or manslaughter. As the evidence read the prisoner inflicted the wound, and it was for them to say whether there was malice aforethought.

Evidence was then called.

Dr. Harold Macfarlane, officer in charge of the Kowloon mortuary, gave an account of the numerous stab wounds he found on deceased's body at the *post mortem* examination he held. There was an inch wound at the base of the back of the neck on the left hand side, extending down for an inch; an inch cut on the outer side of the left elbow into the muscle; another inch cut on the lower part of the left shoulder blade; three long bruises on the other side of the right forearm; a bruise an inch long on the upper part of the right shoulder blade; two coils of the intestines protruded below the lower left part of the abdomen, covering about six inches in diameter. On putting the intestines back an inch and a quarter cut through the abdomenal wall showed. The stab perforated the intestines and cut blood vessels and a large hæmorrhage along the abdomenal wall was torn. The heart was not exactly empty; the lungs were dry and bloodless. Death, in the doctor's opinion, was due to hæmorrhage. A knife, commonly used by the Chinese, for slaughtering pigs was given to the doctor and he was of opinion that the wounds were caused by it. The weapon was about five inches long, the middle of the blade measuring some three inches wide.

The next witness was Mr. Wright, assistant engineer of the Public Works Department, who produced the plan of the scene of the tragedy. He was followed by the "star" witness, who gave a detailed account of the trouble leading to the man's death.

In the afternoon Counsel for the defence raised an objection to the way the prisoner's statement was taken down when he was arrested. He said that the statement was not certified by a sworn translator and consequently its English version could not be read to the jury.

The Chief Justice maintained that the objection was a sound one, and instructed the Attorney-General to have the statement certified by the Court translator.

The hearing was adjourned until to-day.

FISHING JUNK LOOTED.

PIRATES AT WORK IN MIRS BAY.

The details of another daring piracy were reported to the Police on the morning of the 11th inst. The deed was committed at Lung Shun Wan, an island in the vicinity of Mirs Bay, and not very far away from Hongkong.

At about five o'clock on the morning of the 6th instant, a fishing junk left Shau-ki-wan harbour on a fishing expedition. There were on board five of a crew—four men and the skipper's wife. In the afternoon of that day, they arrived off Lung Shan Wan, where they were becalmed. Everything was quiet except for the lapping waters which swept against the sides of the junk. There was not a breath of wind to rustle the sails. The crew, under the circumstances, were lounging on the deck, some asleep, others lying quietly, half awake, in various parts of the craft, while the fishing junk drifted at the vagaries of the tide.

It was about four o'clock when a Hok-lo boat came alongside and one of the crew of six inquired whether there was any fish to sell. The reply was in the negative, and notwithstanding this, five of the men boarded the junk and, driving the crew aft, proceeded to loot the vessel. They removed a quantity of clothing and a sum of money, the total sum amounting to about $10. They then made their departure.

The fishing boat returned to Hongkong immediately and reported the matter to the Police, who are investigating the affair.

RACING GOSSIP.

[*By Our Own Contributor.*]

18th inst.

Evidently this is the time of the year when racing forms a leading topic of conversation among the gentry of our little island. I have heard it talked in hotels, in clubs, at street corners, and even in the churches, until, I am shocked to say, it is getting somewhat tiresome. But that is not all, by any way. Almost every day I am asked to solve problems which would bring tears into anyone's eyes. For instance, last week a kind friend interrogated—"Do you think, old chap, that the 'Brilliant One' will win the Derby? If he does don't you think there will be something doing?" I confessed that I did not know any person of that name—and walked on.

Last night I was the very interested listener to a conversation having reference to a most deplorable incident which occurred at Sandown last month. A jockey, by name Hare, who had won the Chertsey Selling Steeple-chase on the evergreen old Adansi, who is apparently invincible over the course, had, on returning to the paddock, to answer the charge of foul riding and of assaulting Water Bulteel in the course of the race by hitting him over the hand with the butt-end of his whip. The Stewards suspended Hare for the remainder of the day, and reported the case to the Stewards of the National Hunt Committee. In addition, Hare and A. Anthony were reported by the starter for disobedience at the post, and were each fined £5. O'Brien, after finishing second on Sintram to Dafila, was called before the Stewards to explain why he had not kept his horse straight from the flight of hurdles instead of letting him bore on to Dafila, and carry that horse half-way across the course. Had Sintram won he would certainly have been disqualified. O'Brien was cautioned as to his riding in future.

But to return nearer home. The Foochow race meeting which has just concluded seemed to have been a gala affair from all accounts. Heraldic, owned by Ewo, proved himself the best horse by far, having won four races. The second pony, Capital, Captain Hope owner, came next with three, while the same gentleman's Marvellous was responsible for two first places. Father O'Flynn's Kirby and Mr. Min's Piper captured two events each.

It will be interesting to learn that Heraldic, Gamechick, the winner of the first race of the meeting, Kirby, Mohawk Chief and perhaps Capital are expected in Hongkong at no distant date to take part in the races, and it is to be hoped that the first named animal will keep up the reputation already made at Foochow.

A word or two should not be out of place concerning the subscription griffins. They are all looking well with what training they are at present undergoing. So far no galloping work has been done, and will not be for about three weeks.

Mr. C. H. Ross's pony still stands out well among the bunch. Mr. J. A. Jupp's long looking grey appears to be a fast one and his lengthiness should be useful to him when the time arrives. Rubber Tree is in good trim and could be placed before the flag to-morrow, as are Coxcomb and Earthquake. Mr. W. J. Gresson and Mr. Auton have also been lucky drawers, and possess fine looking beasts, maybe the best of the lot. Out of the four drawn by Mr. H. N. Mody only one exhibits anything like racing form. The Buffs have drawn some good ponies, but they have not been seen on the track as yet.

A week ago three Derby griffins were landed, consigned to Mr. G. Friesland. These ponies have shown good points, and if that alone were needed they should come out we".

On Christmas Day a number of old ponies, perhaps about twenty, are expected here from the North. Most of the ponies are so well-known to Hongkong sportsmen that it is useless to say furthermore.

RIDING BOY.

WATER RETURN.

Level and storage of water in reservoirs on the 1st September.

CITY AND HILL DISTRICT WATER WORKS.

LEVEL.

	1907.	1908.
Tytam	0' 6½" below overflow	4' 9" below overflow
Tytam Byewash	28' 2" below overflow	28' 2" below overflow
Tytam Intermediate	2' 4" above overflow	2" 2½" above overflow
Pokfulum	2' 6" below overflow	5' 4" below overflow
Wong-nai-chung	2' 6" below overflow	8' 0½" below overflow

STORAGE GALLONS.

	1907.	1908.
Tytam	380,250,000	345,280,000
Tytam Byewash	nil.	nil.
Tytam Intermediate	209,388,000	208,651,000
Pokfulum	60,520,000	54,380,000
Wong-nai-chung	27,185,000	20,669,000
Total	677,343,000	628,980,000

Consumption of water in the City and Hill District during the month of November.

	1907.	1908.
Consumption	132,081,000	134,219,000 gallons
Estimated population	205,860	207,650
Consumption per head per day	21.3	21.5 gallons

Constant supply during November in both years.

The return of consumption is subject to error owing to the difficulty of accurate measurement whilst the extension works at Albany Filter Beds are in progress.

KOWLOON WATER WORKS.

LEVEL.

	1907.	1908.
Kowloon Gravitation Reservoir	27' 5" below overflow	22' 5" below overflow

STORAGE GALLONS.

	1907.	1908.
Kowloon Gravitation Reservoir	127,817,000	160,108,000 gallons

Consumption of water in Kowloon during the month of November:—

	1907.	1908.
Consumption	20,681,000	28,849,000 gallons
Estimated population	80,500	85,300
Consumption per head per day	8.5	11.2 gallons

The Government Analyst reports that the water is of excellent quality.

W. CHATHAM,
Water Authority.

LUI HOI, an unemployed, was given six weeks' imprisonment yesterday for attempting to pick Mr. J. G. Aquino's pocket in Queen's Road on Thursday.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES.

REUTER BROCKELMANN'S COMPRADORE'S ACTION.

The action brought by Mr. O. D. Thomson, a solicitor, against Mok Iu Tong, *alias* Yee On Tong, a compradore in the employ of Messrs. Reuter Brockelmann & Co., to recover the sum of $950.63 for professional services rendered on behalf of the defendant some two years ago, being balance due after receiving $1,300, which was the original agreement between the two parties, was concluded in the Supreme Court, yesterday morning. Mr. Justice Gompertz found for the plaintiff and entered judgment for $402 and costs.

Mr. E. J. Grist, of Messrs. Wilkinson and Grist, appeared for the plaintiff, while Mr. H. G. C. Bailey, of Messrs. Johnson, Stokes and Master, represented the defendant.

THE WHITE PERIL IN CHINA.

A CHINESE ON EUROPEANS.

Inscrutable as the outlook in China must for the present remain no one will deny that, if the death of the Emperor means little, the death of the Dowager Empress means a great deal to the Celestial Empire at large. Some account of the forces now at work within that Empire, gathered as it is from an authoritative Chinese source, cannot fail to be interesting at such a moment, and I give it for the most part in the words of my informant.

"When I hear Englishmen talking about the Yellow Peril and see them shaking their heads at the idea of China 'waking up,' I sometimes wonder why it never occurs to them that a reformed, revivified China would perhaps be a welcome addition to the family of nations. China is very big, very unwieldy, very self-sufficient—because self-supporting—very conservative, very patient. The English, too, are conservative at heart, very tenacious, in practice, of old customs, old ideals, old superstitions. Like the Chinese, too, and unlike most other nations, they are not wedded to one religious faith, but, at bottom, think of religion as a 'propriety,' a 'decency,' and would rather a man upheld a religion he did not quite believe in than waive all such things aside. I say all this in order that Englishmen should get rid of the idea that in the main, the Chinese character is 'mysterious' and enigmatical."

THAT STRANGE CREATURE—THE FOREIGNER.

"Bear in mind, too, please, that natural conditions being such as have enabled us in the past to be self-supporting, we have been able to do what every other nation would have liked to do, namely, to shut out that strange creature with his new face, meaningless speech, and untutored conduct—the foreigner! Every boy knows what it is like to see a foreigner for the first time, how amusing and yet how irritating! It is so, you will admit, even to-day in England, even when your people have books, stories, plays, and pictures in which the people of other lands are described. You know their history. In most of you the blood of other nations runs intermingled with that of the dominant Saxon type. Figure to yourself, then, what a foreigner means to a people like ours, millions of whom, living in a country that has enjoyed the arts of peace for centuries, in the midst of a literary and artistic civilisation, have yet never seen other than a Mongol face or read or heard other than a Chinese tongue. It is only because we are by nature and training a peaceful, studious race that foreigners are not treated as they would be among any other people to whom they came at once as a shock and as a deliberately disturbing force. Bearing all this in mind, the settlement of strangers in China and the gradual influence of Western diplomacy, education, and trade in China have been tolerated in a manner remarkable in the history of mankind."

Turning to another point, my informant went on: "If China may fairly be named as the country where that sort of intrigue and corruption always described as 'typical' of the Orient holds unbridled sway, it is plain that these vices have by no means ceased to play a part in Western civilisation, for we have abundant examples of corruption and dishonesty in the very traffickings with our Empire in which Western foreigners have indulged. Thus in our intercourse with you, your practices have been such as have materially marred the effect of your precepts.

THE "AWAKENING" AND ITS MEANING.

"Let me instance the Railway Concession traffic of a few years back, from the effects of which China still suffers. You bought concessions from us and your Government enforced agreements by which, if the scheme failed, we had to bear the financial and other burdens; whilst if it succeeded, the profits went to you. Add to this manifest iniquity the fact that we were single-minded enough—foolish enough, I had better say—to permit the foreign advisers of these syndicates to decide the direction and character of the railways, so that they were constructed purely to earn speedy and large profits, without regard to strategic, or, indeed, native consideration at all, and you see how little we have for which to thank the Western 'business man.' To the Chinaman, then, who looks ahead, the 'Awakening of China' means the realisation at its full significance of what has been for long a 'White Peril' in our land.

"You remember the Shanghai riots of last year? Shanghai is now a huge cosmopolitan settlement. To the Chinese mind it represents the chief nest of that parasitic population of foreigners who have settled upon us for commercial purposes of their own and from which we derive no real benefit at all. They bring with them their own laws in a very practical sense; a police of their own has been forced upon us, in the sense that it does not when it so dares scruple to interfere with our people. In this particular affair, a Chinese woman accused of kidnapping (in spite of the fact that the charge related to an alleged offence committed thousands of miles away from Shanghai, and therefore outside any foreign jurisdiction) was arrested in Shanghai by the foreign police, and, contrary to all proper custom, was lodged in the foreign gaol. Unavailing official protest followed, and naturally riots ensued. Surely no one can be surprised at our indignation and revolt."—*Pall Mall Gazette.*

EX-LUKONG IN DIFFICULTIES.

ARRESTED AS A SUSPICIOUS PERSON.

14th inst.

An *ex-lukong*, who is alleged to have turned "dangerous" suddenly, was arrested by Detective-Sergeant Appleton yesterday as a suspicious person. The ex-policeman, Ng Cheung, was, in the Police Court, to-day, charged with being a rogue and vagabond, in that he was found in a house at 5, Tung Wo Lane, with the intention of committing a felony, and with being in possession of a revolver without a permit. Some time yesterday afternoon Detective Appleton went to the Tung Wo Lane house to investigate a recent robbery. As he was ascending the staircase he met two men coming from the top floor, and becoming suspicious, the officer seized the first man—the ex-policeman—and searched him. While doing so the other man escaped. Tucked away behind his back was the revolver, which was loaded in three chambers. The defendant's excuse was that he was taking the revolver to get it mended. He was remanded.

GOVERNMENT HOUSE.

DINNER ON WEDNESDAY.

15th inst.

The following guests will be entertained at dinner on Wednesday, the 16th, at Government House by H. E. the Governor:—The Bishop of Victoria and Mrs. Lander, Sir Francis and Lady Piggott and Miss Orley, Admiral of the Fleet Sir James, Lady and Miss Erskine, Rear-Admiral and Lady Coerper, the Hon. Mr. and Mrs. Badeley, Captain Erskine, R.N., Capt. and Mrs. Ryan, and Miss Stirling, Mr. and Mrs. Messer, and Mrs. Beasley.

Yesterday, the 14th inst., His Excellency entertained Mr. Scott, the senior partner of the firm of Messrs. Butterfield and Swire, to luncheon. Mr. Law and Mr. Murray Stewart were also invited.

Sir Alexander Hosie left last night for Canton and returns to Government House on Thursday morning. He leaves for Shanghai by the German mail on Friday next.

His Excellency, attended by Mr. Brackenbury, Private Secretary, and Capt. Simson, A.D.C., dined last night with Commodore and Mrs. Lyon on board H.M.S. *Tamar*.

OPIUM IN THE PHILIPPINES.

EFFECT OF RESTRICTION.

In reviewing the business in opium in the Philippine Islands during the fiscal year 1908, the Collector of Customs in his annual report says:

"Opium, of which the British East Indies was, during 1908, as in previous years, the principal source of supply, shows a decrease in the value of 1908 receipts from those of 1907 of $169,617, the total value of importations during 1908 having been but $143,670. This decrease was due to the prohibition of the use of this drug, except for medicinal purposes, by Act No. 1761, of the Philippine Commission, which became effective March 1, 1908. In view of this legislation, the importations practically ceased after November, 1907, since which time the only opium entered through Philippine custom-houses consisted of small consignments of pharmaceutical preparations for medicinal purposes. The following statement shows the quantity of opium imported, its value, and the amount of duty collected thereon, during each fiscal year from 1899 to 1908, inclusive, and will give an idea as to the direct effect of the elimination of this commodity from the islands' trade upon the aggregate value of imports as well as upon the customs revenue:—

Fiscal year	Pounds	Value	Duty.
1899	91,823	$255,310	$64,586
1900	155,672	477,027	132,312
1901	221,683	619,338	189,720
1902	285,443	819,025	263,476
1903	259,473	721,551	357,575
1904	269,770	770,596	338,422
1905	258,128	850,381	366,893
1906	150,292	440,464	272,955
1907	169,933	513,287	308,277
1908	50,776	14,670	92,126
Total	1,902,933	5,611,249	2,383,652

ART PAINTINGS.

ON VIEW AT THE CITY HALL.

17th inst.

The Hongkong public are given an opportunity of viewing some fine specimens of French art, and it is not every day that Hongkong can have this privilege. The collection of pictures (oil paintings) which will be on view at the City Hall on Friday and Saturday, are painted by well-known French artists of the Paris Salon. Amongst them may be noticed paintings by Charpentier, who is admired for his forest scenery; Hansen's lake scenes are artistic and natural; Holmstedt brings to mind Norway and Sweden; Paulus' marine paintings are bold and perfect; Pinggera is a painter who specialises in detail figures and scenes from the history of France; Berquin is a portrait painter of the first order; Guesta's paintings are admired by many. There are many other painters who are represented in this collection of over 200 pictures, but special note should be taken of those numbered in the catalogue Nos. 13, 14, 15, 16, 23, 24, 27, 31, 32, 67, 76, 77, 78, 80, 84, 103, 104, 133, 134, 137, 139, 162, 164, 169, 170, 191, 199, 213, 214, 219, 220.

TIN IN SINGAPORE.

AN EXCITING DISCOVERY.

Natives and old residents have always said there was tin in Singapore, the former pointing to the name of the principal hill, Bukit Timah, as a proof of the assertion. And no doubt tin has been found in various parts of the island, but not in anything like quantities. It has fallen to the good fortune of Mr. T. C. Loveridge to produce the "bijeh" in saleable quantities, and that from the Bukit Mandai, a hill on the northern slopes of Bukit Timah, between the 11th and 12th miles on the Bukit Timah-rd and close to where the Singapore-Kranji Railway runs parallel with the main road, reports the *Singapore Free Press*. Mr. Loveridge had granite quarries there, and in the course of working these came across the tin. Of the existence of the karang there can be no doubt, for yesterday (4th inst.) morning 13 bags were brought into town and despatched to the Straits Trading Co.'s smelting works at Pulau Brani. It is estimated to be 73 per cent. an excellent quality, but this has yet to be verified. We have seen the samples first washed out from the land, a morning's panning which shows a small bagful of nice clean looking stuff. Some of the picked crystals from the larger consignment are very fine, and show but little signs of being waterworn. This would seem to indicate that the source of the crystals is not far distant, and an expectation is formed of the lode being somewhere up in the hill. The alluvial is found at present quite close to the surface of the ground, and experts believe that it extends right down to the railway embankment and probably under it. Further prospecting and boring will be necessary to prove this, but Mr. Dykes, Warden of Mines, F.M.S., who visited the place with Mr. Farrer, the Collector of Land Revenue, went so far as to give advice on the method of opening up, which seems to indicate that he thinks favourably of the place.

Mr. Loveridge has formed a private syndicate to work the tin, and proposes to push steadily on with the work of proving. The Mandai Tin Syndicate is the name of the concern. If present indications continue there is a bright prospect for the syndicate and for Singapore. The average produced is three-quarters of a pikul of ore per man per month. This includes clearing and prospecting work and is quite good enough to go on with. We congratulate Mr. Loveridge, and hope that the tin showing at Bukit Mandai merely represents a small part of what exists in Singapore.

FOR stealing two leather belt laces, the property of the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company, last Thursday, a Chinese employé was, on Friday, sentenced to a month's hard labour, in the Police Court.

CLAIM AGAINST A FRENCHMAN.

CHINAMAN SUES FOR WAGES AND ALLOWANCES.

In the Supreme Court, last Saturday, Chak Koo, of No. 4, Bowrington Canal Road, brought an action against a Frenchman named P. Mardin, who resides at 6, Carnarvon Road, Kowloon. The claim was to recover $607.67 alleged to be wages due, allowances and money paid by the plaintiff on behalf of defendant.

It was stated in the plaintiff's cause that he was engaged by the defendant as an interpreter and broker. His wages were $33 a month, and he had not received payment for some time.

The defence was that plaintiff was engaged as a watchman at a salary of $15 a month, and that he had been paid in full.

The plaintiff appeared in person, while defendant was represented by Mr. D. Stevenson, of Messrs. Deacon, Looker & Co.

The case was adjourned.

VOLUNTEER RIFLE COMPETITION.

NO. 2 COMPANY.

For prizes presented by the officers and commissioned officers of the above company. Five prizes in all have been presented, highest aggregates obtained over the series.

(1) Six shoots, four only of which to count, take place at Tai Hang Range on the following dates commencing at 9.30 a.m.:

November 8th, 1908 ... February 14th, ...
November 13th, ... March 14th, ...
January 10th, 1909 ... April 11th, ...

(2) Ranges 200, 500 and 600 yards, 7 sighters and 7 shots at each range, targets and conditions.

(3) Handicaps may be revised by the committee after each shoot.

(4) Members to provide their own ammunition.

As it has been found advisable to have a European on the Butts, the committee have arranged for this, and would be glad if members would subscribe 50 cents per man to defray this expense.

HANDICAPS.

Capt. G. P. Lammeit	...
Lieut. J. S. Gubbay	...
2/Lieut. J. I. Andrew	...
C.S.M. J. D. Gloyn	...
Sergt. H. A. Sayer	...
" R. H. Hayward	...
" E. A. Chapman	...
" A. E. Crapnell	...
Corpl. H. C. Sayer	...
" F. N. Crawford	...
" H. Lock	...
" C. B. Hayward	...
Bombr. W. J. Quick	...
" F. E. Wilkins	... 10
" E. M. Raymond	... 21
Gunr. D. Tollan	...
" G. Evans	...
" R. J. Judah	... 2
" C. A. Rodrigues	... 2
" M. Gourgey	... 8
" W. J. Lawington	... 2
" G. G. Catchick	...
" A. R. Ellis	... 2
" H. E. Edwards	... 27
" B. Jephson	...
" D. Jephson	...
" E. E. Ellis	...
" J. R. Crollius	...
" A. M. Marshall	...
" R. Hope	...
" W. F. Brewer	...
" T. Loft	...
" J. J. Judah	...
" G. A. T. Cousins	...
" C. T. Armstrong	...
" G. R. Glover	...

SHIPPING SUBSIDIES.

ALLEGED AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE ... AND THE JAPANESE PREMIER.

It is reported that a private agreement ... been arrived at between Mr. Kondo, Presid... of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, and Marqu... Katsura, the Premier, concerning the subsid... granted to steamship services, and the boar... of directors of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha are now optimistic regarding the subsidy question. It is understood that the Premier has resolved to make some amendment to the Steam Navigation Encouragement Law and the contracts with steamship companies regarding the grant of special subsides, but the amendment will in no way affect the amount of subsidy granted. A Bill is accordingly to be introduced to the Diet.—*Japan Chronicle.*

MARINE COURT.

EXCESS OF PASSENGERS COSTS BOATMAN $50.

17th inst.

In the Marine Court, this morning, before the Hon. Commander Basil R. H. Taylor, R.N., Harbour Master, Police-Sergeant W. Edwards charged Leung Iu Fuk, master of a coolie boat, with carrying twenty persons in excess of the number allowed by his licence yesterday.

It was stated by prosecutor that at 9.30 a.m. yesterday, he saw defendant's boat being towed by the steam launch *Yik On*, both of which vessels carried a number of coolies. The steam launch carried the exact number of passengers allowed by the licence, but defendant had on board 69 persons all told—an excess of 20 over the proper number (49).

Defendant admitted the offence but said that he originally carried 49 persons only, and that the remainder was sent to him from the steam-launch.

A fine of $50 was imposed, in default of payment, three months' hard labour. The fine was paid.

INFRINGING HARBOUR REGULATION.

In the same Court, P. C. Bond proceeded against Li Sam, a boatwoman, with anchoring her boat within the limits of the Southern Fairway.

P. C. Bond stated that at 12.30 a.m. this morning, he saw the defendant's boat anchored off the China Merchants' wharf. He asked for her licence, which was produced. It was blowing too hard at the time for her to ship.

Defendant stated that it was blowing hard and she couldn't go ashore. She was engaged for the day in carrying matches from Tsimtsa-tsui to the China Merchants' wharf. She only made one trip.

Defendant was fined $10.

MIS-USING A BOAT.

Leung Pi Yau, owner of a cargo boat, had to answer a charge, preferred by P. S. Jackson, of carrying passengers in his boat other than luggage yesterday.

Prosecutor stated that late yesterday afternoon, he stopped defendant's boat in the Central Fairway and asked for his licence. He counted the people on board and found ten men and three women. There was no cargo or luggage on board.

Defendant's statement was to the effect that he had gone off with a cargo for a steamer and that the nine people who were found on board his boat insisted on coming on board. He was not in a position to prevent them.

A fine of $5 was imposed.

CANTON DAY BY DAY.

AUTHORITIES ON THE LOOK-OUT.

[From Our Own Correspondent.]

Canton, 11th December.

H.E. Viceroy Chang has received from the Ministry of Posts and Communications a telegram directing his attention to the Imperial Rescript issued on the 9th day of this month to the following effect:—"It has been reported from various sources that the revolutionists and anti-monarchists who are now taking refuge abroad, availing themselves of the opportunity when the country is deep in sorrow on the death of the Emperor Kuang Hsu and the Empress Dowager, have been spreading insidious rumours with the malicious intention of inciting the public to create disturbances. These [illegible] are said to have sent letters to several [illegible] ons in the Capital, chiefly students, calling [illegible] them to fall in line with them. The projected [illegible] istry of Posts and Communications is now proudly [illegible] ore instructed to at once wire to the Europe a[illegible] provinces throughout the whole Empire ance of th[illegible] ect all postal authorities to exercise the —but from [illegible] vigilance in handling mail matters. In been the [illegible] five or more letters reaching a post conflicts [illegible] at one time, all addressed in Chinese to second, [illegible] individual only, these letters should be course [illegible] used to be opened. If the contents of such resid[illegible] letters are found to be of a revolutionary and anunt[illegible] -monarchist nature, they should at once be wor[illegible] destroyed. The Authorities of all provinces are at the same time warned to be as vigilant as possible in suppressing the malpractice of the bad characters in starting unnecessary alarms."

ATTEMPTED RISING.

The Hunan Governor has forwarded a despatch [illegible] to the Canton Authorities giving the names of two revolutionists, one of whom is reason[illegible] named Lau and the other Cheong, who are Councomplices of Dr. Sun Wen (otherwise Dr. Sun Yat-sen) and have been attempting to take general[illegible] in a rising in Hunan province. The measu[illegible]ion Authorities have been requested to hunt operat[illegible] the lawless subjects should they make tional s[illegible] appearance in this city.

PEOPLE STRIKE.

because [illegible] the outcome of an advance in the price along th[illegible] district, [illegible]t at Shan Mee, a market-place, the people section o[illegible] went on strike last week. The Brigadier- in some o[illegible] at Kit Shek Chun on learning of the taipans a[illegible]nce hastened to the scene without loss question [illegible] and order was restored, after considerroute. Tw[illegible]fficulties.

A FATHER'S SORROW.

may have[illegible] the bound[illegible] submitted a mourning was commenced by the to under[illegible] public here on account of the death of routes h[illegible]te Emperor Kuang Hsu, the barbers in involved city have suspended their business as or[illegible] as the [illegible]d by the authorities. It is needless to say threate[illegible], this class of people has experienced a becau[illegible] time to perforce pass fully one hundred Re[illegible]ays during which they are left without any engagement. Being eager to earn his daily bread yesterday, a barber in On Lan Street [illegible] thought that there would be no harm to clip— to [illegible] not shave—hairs for the people and he thereoth[illegible]fore posted on his door a notice with Chinese regi[illegible] characters equivalent to "Clip Hair," for which Hor[illegible]he was made to pay a fine of $5 in the No. 6 plac[illegible] Police Station.

DEFRAUDING THE STANDARD OIL CO.

tive [illegible] Two men have been arrested and sent to the ra[illegible] Namhoi Magistrate to be dealt with at the indi[illegible]tance of the Standard Oil Company at Canton those second, the charge of wilfully selling kerosine oil of the privacy [illegible]de brand in old tins of the Company's to the roo[illegible] Brand.

OFFICIALS' INCOMPETENCE.

to the sp[illegible] It is alleg[illegible]s reported that H.E. Viceroy Chang is be ado[illegible]satisfied with the Magistrates of Namhoi to kn[illegible]d Panyu, and that they will shortly be reso hi[illegible]oved from their offices.

12th December.

SUCCESSFUL CANDIDATES' DEPARTURE.

their ch[illegible] likely [illegible] den" on the receipt of a telegram from the Shuipaving [illegible]chu at Peking, the Canton Kwan-wu-chu tainly [illegible] issued a proclamation informing the and the [illegible]cessful candidates who appeared in a command [illegible]petitive examination held two months ago in shrub[illegible]anton for admission to the newly-established wit[illegible] Customs College at Peking, to proceed forthwi[illegible] with to the North.

Tantai Wan Hok Ki has been appointed by the Viceroy to be Assistant Director of the Kwan-wu-chu.

THE IMPERIAL MOURNING.

The Viceroy has issued a proclamation to notify the general public that the solemn occasion of mourning for twenty-seven days to be reckoned from the 19th ultimo, on account of the death of the late Emperor Kwang Hsu, will terminate on the 15th instant, not on the 11th instant, as has been reported. White garments should be changed for black from that date and blue seals will be discontinued in all official yamens.

AFTERMATH OF HONGKONG RIOTS

Messrs. Lo Kwan Shek, Li Kai Hee, Che Yun Luk and Lau Che Wai have been informed by the Viceroy in a notification that they will not be permitted to visit the Colony of Hongkong in future as a consequence of the recent riots there, in which they were alleged to have taken part, as pointed out in the communication from the Hongkong Government to the Viceroy.

14th December.

NORWEGIAN CONSUL'S RETURN.

Mr. E. A. Stanton, Vice-Consul for Norway at Canton, who had been absent from this place since the beginning of November last, has now returned and resumed charge of the Consulate to-day.

ARREST OF SUPPOSED REVOLUTIONISTS.

On the 12th instant, at a late hour, Admiral Li Chun sent four men, named Got Him *alias* An Lun, Yim Kwok Fung, *alias* Yee Sam, Lo Tip, Lum, *alias* Shu Yin, and Chim Wing, respectively, under an armed escort to the Namhoi Magistrates and they were at once confined in cells on arrival at the Magistracy. All of them speak the Hunan dialect. It is alleged that these four men are members of a certain revolutionary society and fled to Canton from the Hunan province. Two of them were dressed in military uniform.

THE "FATSHAN" INCIDENT.

With reference to the *Fatshan* incident, H. E. the Viceroy, in reply to the petition of the deceased's relatives, stated that as the offender is a Portuguese subject, the petitioners should lodge a complaint with the Portuguese Consul at Canton, with whom the Namhoi Magistrate will be instructed to jointly investigate the matter and bring about a satisfactory settlement.

The Viceroy has also issued a proclamation in which H. E. explained to the public that the British Consul at Canton is not in a position to take the matter in hand, as the defendant is a Portuguese subject, not a Britisher. The Viceroy also warned the vernacular papers to be careful not to publish alarming and unnecessary reports prior to the settlement of the case.

FATAL TRAIN ACCIDENT.

At 11 o'clock in the morning of the 12th instant, when the train was returning to Shek Wai Tong from Fatshan, a man walking on the tracks was knocked down and killed instantaneously close to the Wing Gee station.

JUVENILE SMOKING PROHIBITED.

It has been already reported that the Canton Authorities are in receipt of instructions from the Board of Education at Peking to prohibit the students here from smoking cigarettes, but it was not until recently that the Taotai of Constabulary issued a proclamation in which he stated that all students under fifteen years of age are not allowed to smoke; cigarette-dealers are also prohibited from selling cigarettes to students coming within the provision of the age limit under pain of severe punishment.

LOTTERY TICKETS.

It is reported that the practice of issuing lottery tickets in the province of Kwang-tung as well as in other provinces will be prohibited at the beginning of next Chinese New Year as ordered by the Peking Government.

ENCOUNTER WITH PIRATES.

A week ago, a junk, fully laden with sundry merchandise, while on the way to Ho Yuen from Waichow, was held up by pirates when approaching the vicinity of the Ku Chuk market-place. At the time a guard boat was near the scene and, in answer to the alarm raised, at once rowed up to render assistance. During the engagement with the pirates the soldiers were obliged to surrender owing to the overwhelming numbers of the pirates and moreover deserted the guard boat, which was afterwards burnt by the pirates. Nine soldiers in all were killed during the engagement.

15th December.

NEW BUND COMPLETED.

The new bund having been completed, the Bunding Bureau has issued a proclamation ordering all the existing bamboo and wooden jetties along the bund to be removed and iron ones to be erected in their stead.

SUNNING RAILWAY.

By the end of this year, the whole line of the Sunning Railway from Kung Yick Fau to Sam Gap Hoi Hou will be completed. The total of the paid-up capital of the Company is about $2,700,000 of which some $1,400,000 has been spent, leaving a balance of some $300,000. The Sunning Railway Company now proposes to raise sufficient capital by subscriptions to extend the road from Kung Yick Fau to the city of Sanui and thence to Kongmoon.

THE IMPERIAL MOURNING.

The twenty-seven days' full mourning on account of the death of the Emperor Kuang Hsu terminates to-day; red seals have again been resumed in all official yamens. This morning all the officials in this city assembled to perform ceremonial rites at the Imperial Temple.

RELIEF FOR THE POOR.

The Canton Taotai for the Development of Native Industries proposes to order the Canton Industrial Institution to make 1,500 rattan chairs and place them at the different police stations for hire at low charges to the poorer classes of the people in order that they may obtain engagement and thus earn a livelihood.

OPIUM-SMOKING PARAPHERNALIA DESTROYED.

Day before yesterday, a large quantity of opium-smoking apparatus, which were seized by the members of the Anti-opium Society and the police since the prohibition of opium-smoking, was destroyed at Fatshan in a bonfire. A large crowd of a few hundred people gathered there to witness the conflagration.

INCREASE IN RAILWAY FARES.

Since the increase in fares on the Canton-Fatshan line, the number of passengers has been decreasing day after day. Availing themselves of this opportunity, two steam launch companies have placed half-a-dozen steam launches on the Canton-Fatshan run to carry passengers and they are now doing good business.

CANTON-HANKOW RAILWAY.

Owing to the collection of the 2nd call on shares by the Canton-Hankow Railway Company being unsatisfactory and the delay in the work on the trunk line, the Ministry of Posts and Communications at Peking has informed the superintendent of the railway that the privileges of building the Fatshan-Kongmoon line cannot be granted to the Canton-Hankow Railway Company. The concession of the said line will be given to the Sunning Railway Company.

16th December.

A VICEROY'S TRIP.

H.E. Viceroy Chang Jen Chun has for several times been most anxious to make a tour of inspection of the West River after the visitation of the disastrous floods in June last but has not yet been able to do so owing to exigencies of official business. It is now reported that H.E. Chang has renewed his intention for the trip and has arranged to carry it out shortly with Admiral Li Chun to accompany him.

AN OFFICIAL'S DISGRACE.

As a result of his assaulting the officer in charge of the Wing Chun Magazine while inspecting it, the Brigadier-General of Kwang chow, Wu Ling Sun, has been severely reprimanded by the High Authorities and furthermore he is now about to be removed from his position.

A SHOCKING ACCIDENT.

Railway accidents have been frequently occurring on the Canton-Fatshan line. On the 12th instant, another fatal accident took place. Yesterday, at 10 a.m. a train going to Fatshan from Shek Wai Tong knocked down a man of about fifty years of age in the vicinity of the Three-Eye Bridge, where the unfortunate man attempted to cross the track when the train was fast approaching. The man was killed instantaneously, his body being cut into three parts.

CANTON PROVINCIAL JUDGE.

The newly appointed Canton Provincial Judge, Wei King Tung, will take over the seat of office on the 16th instant.

UNLAWFUL EXPORTATION OF RICE.

The Self-Government Society convened a meeting to-day to discuss matters in connection with the suppression of the exportation of native rice by lawless subjects, as well as the *Fatshan* incident.

17th December.

FORMER KOREAN JUDGE IN CANTON.

Chuan Ping Fun, a Korean, formerly a Judge in that country, arrived here a fortnight ago on a visit to this city. He called on the Viceroy yesterday to take his leave and the latter gave him a present of one hundred dollars.

ACTING PROVINCIAL JUDGE.

The Viceroy has instructed the present acting Provincial Judge, Cheung Shik Fun, to return to Shiu Hing to resume his duties as Taotai of Shiu Hing and Lo Ting as soon as he has handed over the seal of office to the newly-appointed provincial judge, Wai King Tung, on the 19th instant.

THE "FATSHAN" INCIDENT.

At the meeting held yesterday by the members of the Self-government Society in connection with the *Fatshan* incident, it was decided that the re-hearing of this case is to be held at the Portuguese Consulate, and if the result proves unsatisfactory, steps should be taken to deal with the steamer *Fatshan*. The Self-government Society is now also thinking of writing to Messrs. Butterfield and Swire to ask for the adjustment of the matter.

REVOLUTIONISTS DESPISE AMNESTY.

With reference to the four revolutionists who were arrested and questioned by Admiral Li Chun, they all admitted the charges without the least hesitation or fear. Seeing all of them were promising young men about twenty years of age, both the Admiral and the Provincial Judge dealt leniently with them with a view to exonerate them and tried to induce them to become good citizens. But they refused to do, and said that they could never be made to change their minds, were they even to be put to death. They were all allowed to be seated before the Admiral during the proceedings without torture being resorted to and they appeared to appreciate the Admiral's kindness. After being questioned, they were photographed. Of the four men, Gat Hein and Yin Kwok Fung were yesterday morning, by order of the Viceroy, taken to the execution ground and beheaded. The other two men, who were only accomplices of the former, are now therefore detained in the custody of the Namhoi Magistrate pending further instructions from the Viceroy. It is reported that some forty other persons are said to have been implicated in the case, but Admiral Li Chun preferred to drop the question of making further inquiries, lest serious consequences should ensue.

ANARCHISTS' ARREST.

The Brigadier-General of Ko Chow yesterday wired to Canton reporting that he had arrested two alleged anarchists in his locality and asking for instructions how to deal with them.

WOMAN HEAVILY FINED.

Yesterday a woman was fined $50 for producing a permit which was not issued to her, while attempting to buy opium.

DISCHARGING COAL.

CHINESE STEVEDORE SUCCESSFUL

Judgment for the plaintiff for $706.37 and costs was the decision Mr. Justice Gompertz arrived at yesterday, in the action brought by Lau Pui Wong, a stevedore, of 18, Albany Street, against Messrs. Wallem and Company, as agents for the steamer *Christian Dorn*, to recover $1,278.04, for work done. The plaintiff waived the sum $178.04 so as to bring the matter within the Summary Jurisdiction Court. The claim was for discharging the *Christian Dorn* of a cargo of coal, which the plaintiff undertook to do at twenty-seven cents per ton, according to a contract dated June last. There was a balance due after the work had been completed, and although $1,000 had been offered for settlement, it was refused by plaintiff.

Mr. G. E. Morrell, of Messrs. Goldring, Barlow and Morrell, appeared for the plaintiff. Mr. H. Paget Hett, of Messrs. Britton and Hett, defended.

CRIMINAL CALENDAR.

SERIOUS OFFENCES FOR THE DECEMBER CRIMINAL SESSIONS.

The following is the calendar containing the number of cases to be taken during the present sessions:—

(1)—Si Tsan and Kwan King:—Larceny and receiving stolen goods.

(2)—Kwok Leung, Li Shek Shun and Hung Loi:—Murder.

(3)—Chan To, Tse Yau and Li Kai:—Robbery.

(32)—Li Kai:—Wounding.

(4)—Chu Yuen Fuk:—Murder.

The fourth case on the list was opened today. We are requested to remind jurors that they are required at the Supreme Court on Monday morning.

VOLUNTEER CORPS ORDERS.

ALL UNITS

Parade:—At headquarters at 5.15 p.m. on Tuesday, the 22nd instant, for infantry drill. Sergt Downes, 3rd Middlesex Regt, will attend.

ARTILLERY UNITS.

Nos. 1 and 2 companies parade at headquarters at 5.30 p.m. on Monday, the 21st instant.

Nos. 3 and 4 companies parade at headquarters at 5.30 p.m. on Wednesday, the 23rd instant, for company training. Sergts Moore and Eveleigh, R.G.A., will attend.

ENGINEER COMPANY.

Parade.—At West Fort, Kowloon, at 6 p.m. on Wednesday, the 23rd instant, for technical instructions.

JOINED.

Mr. J. A. Young joined the Troop on the 11th December, 1908, assigned Troop No. 65 and posted to the Troop.

Mr. G. C. Whitelaw joined the Corps on the 14th December, 1908, assigned Corps No. 1,070 and posted to No. 1 Company.

RESIGNED.

Gunner H. Pearman is permitted to resign on leaving the Colony, with effect from the 10th instant.

NO. 4. COMPANY H.K.V.C.

The second shoot of the series of monthly competitions which the above company is carrying out will take place at Tai Hang Range on Saturday and Sunday, the 19th and 20th instant.

WHITE HORSE TROPHY.

The above trophy will be fired for on Sunday, the 20th instant, between teams representing the Corps and the Hongkong Volunteer Reserve Association. Members selected to shoot should attend at King's Park Range at 10 a.m. on that date.

SCHOOL BOYS' "CHOW" BILL.

THE PUISNE JUDGE'S CONCLUSION.

In the Supreme Court, yesterday morning, before Mr. Justice Gompertz, the action brought against Man Yeung Chi, a widow, residing at 106, Hollywood Road, by Mok Loi Pao, a compradore, of 23 and 25, Gage Street, to recover $1,312, the amount alleged to be due to plaintiff by the defendant's husband, Man Iu (deceased) for feeding his three sons, came to a conclusion. It will be remembered that the plaintiff, who is in the employ of Abdullali and Ebrahim, undertook a year or two ago to keep the three sons of the deceased, who was in his employ. The price deceased agreed to pay was $20. In the meantime Man Iu died, and plaintiff held a promissory note from him for the amount. Judgment was given for the plaintiff for the full amount and costs.

RAUB GOLD MINE.

The following is the result of crushing operations at Raub for the four weeks ending 5th instant:—

Bukit Koman.	Stone crushed	5,802 tons
	Gold obtained	885 ounces
	Average per ton	4s 6d
Bukit Malacca.	Stone crushed	2,100 tons
	Gold obtained	142 ounces
	Average per ton	1s 4d

COMMERCIAL.

FREIGHT MARKET.

Messrs. Lamke and Rogge write in their fortnightly report of 12th inst.:—

The absence of demand from the Southern rice ports continues to be painfully in evidence, and with Newchwang and Tientsin having become ice-bound, Northern shipping affairs also are to Tobyer in a cheerful state. Latest reports describe the market up North as not being overburdened yet with tonnage, only that rates have somewhat suffered through the diminution of the recent activity. On the other hand the flatness in all Southern trades has by this time become so pronounced, that a good many during the next few weeks will find themselves stuck in whatever port they happen to terminate their present charter, there being no freight obtainable to shift them.

For prompt loading there is next to no business doing from Saigon, only two fixtures having transpired, to Hongkong at 8 cents per picul, and to Singapore on basis of about 13 cents.

To load during February, an Indo-China steamer has been engaged for a part cargo from Saigon to 2 ports N. C. Java at 24 cents per picul.

Through one of the regular liners being compelled to undergo repairs and unable to leave in accordance with schedule, an outside boat has found employment for a trip from Java to this port, details of charter as per list of fixtures.

Importers of beans and beancakes have had inducement to take up 3 further boats from Talienwan to Canton, rate in each case being 25 cents.

Coal Freights are unchanged. From Hongay to Saigon a steamer has been engaged at $1.50, and from Hongay to Penang $2.35 was paid. Wakamatsu to Canton has two charters at $2.15 per ton.

A suitable timber carrier has secured a lump sum freight of $11,600.00 from Rajang to this port.

Time Charter: German s.s. *Sexta* is reported fixed for Rangoon trade, 6/6 months at $4,600.00 Straits currency. The s.s. *Quarta* has been engaged by her present time-charterers for a further term of 12 months at Hongkong $3,200.00.

Sail Tonnage Loading or to Load:—For Baltimore and/or New York:—British bark *Lyndhurst*, 2,149 tons, arrived 14th September. British bark *Daylight*, 3,599 tons, arrived 9th October.

Sail Tonnage Disengaged:—None.

Departure of Sailers:—British bark *Eclipse*, November 29th, for Baltimore.

WEEKLY SHARE REPORT.

Reviewing the share business for the week, Messrs. E. S. Kadoorie & Co. write on 18th inst.:—

Business has ruled dull, and the week has been devoid of any special features, with but few changes to report.

Banks.—Hongkong and Shanghai Banks have weakened to $835 at which rate they are on offer. The London quotations remains the same, viz.:—£82.

Marine Insurances—Cantons are wanted at $105. North Chinas have further strengthened to Tls. 105. Unions have sellers at $840.

Fire Insurances.—China Fires have found buyers at $106, closing firm, and in further request at $107. Hongkong Fires are out of favour at $325.

Shipping.—There are no changes in stocks under this heading, with the exception of Shell Transports which have declined to 47/-.

Refineries.—China Sugars are steady at $1 21/2, and Luzons are still offering at $20.

Mining.—Raubs have weakened and are quoted $9. Chinese Engineerings have advanced to Tls. 171/4, with buyers.

Docks, Wharves and Godowns.—Shanghai Docks have declined to Tls. 721/2, but are in demand at the rate. Sales of Hongkew Wharfs have been effected at the reduced rate of Tls. 135. Hongkong and Whampoa Docks are neglected, and are obtainable at $91, while Kowloon Wharfs are offering at $43.

Lands, Hotels and Buildings.—Hongkong Hotels have buyers at $80. Hongkong Lands can be had at $92, and Humphreys Estates at $9½. Shanghai Lands have improved to Tls. 119 at which rate they have been sold in the north.

Cotton Mills.—Ewos continue to advance, and are inquired for at Tls. 75 ex the dividend of Tls. 5 paid on the 15th inst. Hongkong Cottons are weak at $10.

Miscellaneous.—China Providents can be placed at $4. Green Island Cements have sellers at $10. Watsons have improved to $9¾ and are wanted. Langkats are easier, and obtainable at Tls. 850 ex the dividend and bonus of Tls. 20 paid on the 15th inst. Sumatras are in demand at Tls. 122½. Ices have declined to $125 with sellers.

Exchange.—The Bank's selling rate on London is 1/8½ on demand. The T/T. rate on Shanghai is 75½.

TO-DAY'S EXCHANGE.

Selling.

London—Bank T.T.	1/8 3/16
Do. demand	1/8½
Do. 4 months' sight	1/8½
France—Bank T.T.	2 11½
America—Bank T.T.	41
Germany—Bank T.T.	1.72
India T.T.	126½
Do. demand	127
Shanghai—Bank T.T.	75½
Singapore—Bank T.T. per H.K. $100	72½
Japan—Bank T.T.	82½
Java—Bank T.T.	101½

Buying.

4 months' sight L/C.	1.81
6 months' sight L/C.	1/8½
30 days' sight San Francisco & New York	41½
4 months' sight do.	42½
30 days' sight Sydney & Melbourne	1.81
4 months' sight France	2.16½
6 months' sight "	2.18½
4 months' sight Germany	1.76½
Bar Silver	22 5/16
Bank of England rate	3½ %
Sovereign	11.75

His Excellency the Governor, accompanied by the A.D.C., and Private Secretary and by His Excellency the General Officer Commanding and Captain Heathcote, A.D.C., Sir Alexander Hosie, Colonel Darling, C.R.E., Colonel Chamier, C.R.A., Colonel Bayard, Captain Murray Stewart, D.A.A.G. and Q.M.G., and Captain Hart-Synnot, D.A.A.G. paid a visit last Saturday afternoon to the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company's establishment at Kowloon, where the party was received by Mr. R. Mitchell, general manager, and Mr. W. Wilson, Kowloon manager, who most courteously showed them over every part of the Works. His Excellency expressed astonishment at the extent and variety of the work undertaken by the Company, the efficiency of the supervision, the skill of the Chinese employés, and the up-to-date machinery and plant. After expressing his thanks to Mr. Mitchell for his courtesy, His Excellency and party left by launch to inspect the Eastern Defence and were received at Devil's Peak Fort by Captain Hutchison, R.A.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

We are informed that the Baseball Match will take place rain or fine to-morrow.

The superintendent of the Great Northern Telegraph Co., Ltd., advises that the Yokohama and Kobe lines are interrupted. Tokio line is working slowly.

Sentence of six weeks' hard labour was passed on a coolie in the Police Court, to-day (15th inst.), for entering 7, Bonham Road early this morning, and stealing a quantity of clothing, valued at $8.

Alfred W. Hall, the reporter of *The Quarry* (a weekly paper in Hongkong) left for Manila last Tuesday afternoon, in charge of Captain Towbridge, to answer certain alleged charges of forgery in Manila.

A number of summonses were taken by the magistrates in the Police Court, last Tuesday, against four Europeans and as many Chinese for failing to vaccinate their children. One European was fined $5 for the offence, and the others were remanded.

The sixth annual meeting of the Philippine Islands Medical Association will be held in Manila on 13th February, 1909. This meeting is distinct from that of the Far Eastern Association of Tropical Medicine to be held in Manila in 1910.

The Chinese Engineering and Mining Company, Ltd., announces that the total output of the Company's three mines for the week ending November 28, 1908, amounted to 24,555.78 tons and the sales during the period to 32,219.01 tons.

The Empress-Dowager, (widow of his late Majesty Emperor Kuang Hsü) will remove her place of residence to the Changshou Palace on 22nd instant. Her Majesty has dismissed all the female attendants of the late Empress Grand Dowager.

Chan Fuk, *alias* Chan Luk, a farmer, was sentenced to three months' hard labour in the Police Court, last Tuesday, for theft. Chan was supposed to have removed $500 from the trunk of a fellow passenger on board the steamer *Tak Hing* on Monday night.

Owing to the limited number of experienced Chinese nobles of ability, the Prince Regent proposes to send a large number of young members of the nobility to Europe and America to pursue their studies there for a period of at least three years.

His Excellency the Governor has been pleased to re-appoint, provisionally and subject to His Majesty's pleasure, the Honourable Mr. Wei Yuk, C.M.G., to be an unofficial member of the Legislative Council for a further period of six years, with effect from the 21st October, 1908.

A woman named Olive Hale, residing at 33, Wyndham Street, has been summoned for assaulting a tailor named Chung Kwai, of 57, Wellington Street. The summons was returnable last Tuesday, but as the woman did not put in an appearance in Court, the case was adjourned.

A Dispatch from Ningpo states that several hundred cultivators of poppy have been causing trouble in the district of Huangyen. It is stated that the trouble is caused by the officials and gentry of that district prohibiting the cultivation of poppy in accordance with the Imperial decrees against opium.

The ex-*lukong*, who was charged in the Police Court, yesterday (14th inst.), at the instance of Detective Sergeant Appleton, with being a rogue and vagabond and with being in possession of a loaded revolver without a permit, was to-day asked to pay a fine of $150, or in default three months' hard labour. The fine was not paid.

A heavy tidal wave washed up over Kuragakimura in Nui dui district, and involved the town of Iguchi, in Toyama prefecture, on the night of the 27th ult. between 11 and 1 o'clock. Many houses collapsed. As a result a large number of people have been rendered homeless and are being given relief. No loss of life is reported.

A truck coolie, Lo Hi, was fined $20 in the Police Court, last Tuesday, for obstructing a tramcar in Connaught Road West on Monday. The truck was so heavily loaded that the coolies were unable to leave the track in time to allow the car to continue the journey. Mr. J. Gray Scott, the manager of the Tramway Company, prosecuted.

Three men belonging to cargo-boat 1305 were fined in the Police Court, last Monday, for assaulting an excise officer. At noon the same day E. O. 84 boarded the cargo-boat in search of opium. The trio objected to his visit and attacked him and, it is alleged, attempted to throw him overboard. The first defendant had to pay $10 and the others $5 each.

The first batch of the Japanese troops that are to be withdrawn from North China will embark at Chinwangtao on December 18 and is due to arrive at Ujina on the 20th. It is understood here that the Russian Garrison will be withdrawn almost simultaneously, except for thirty Cossacks who will remain at Peking and ten at Tientsin.—*N. C. Daily News.*

The Central Government has issued instructions to their Excellencies Tang Shao-yi and Wu Ting-fang to approach the United States Government upon the subject of the abolition of likin and the consequent increase of the import duties. The advice of the United States is also requested upon the subject of instituting a gold standard for China.

The "gold" coffin of the late Emperor Kuang Hsü was brought to the Kuei-ch Hall through the Chien-tsing Gate on the morning of the 8th instant. On the 12th instant, the princes, nobles and Metropolitan officials presented themselves at the above-mentioned hall to do homage before the Imperial coffin, and after that date white robes of mourning were assumed for the rest of the period of mourning.

Last Monday, a coolie, by name Tse Cheung, was arrested for snatching a gold ear-pick from a woman's head in Hollywood Road. He was charged in the Police Court on Tuesday, and sentenced to six months' hard labour and to receive two whippings of twelve strokes each. Curious to remark, another coolie was convicted on Monday for a similar offence and received twelve months' imprisonment and the like amount of strokes!

In the Marine Court, this morning (12th instant), before the Hon. Commander Basil R. H. Taylor, R.N., Harbour Master, P.C. Edward Bond charged Wong Mui, a boat-woman, with carrying cargo in her passenger boat other than passengers' baggage yesterday. P.C. Bond stated that at 11 a.m. yesterday he saw defendant's boat in the Central Fairway piled up with cargo, including kerosine oil, on her way ashore. She had no passengers on board at the time. Defendant's license allowed her to carry passengers only. The defendant stated that what she carried was the passengers' luggage. The passengers themselves were in another boat. A fine of $5 was imposed.

A fire occurred last Tuesday night at No. 12, Cochrane Street. The extent of the damage is not known.

Dealing in lottery tickets is an offence according to law. Last Tuesday afternoon, Wan Kwan was caught selling some to a crowd in Beach Street. He paid $25 in the Police Court, on Wednesday, for the error.

Sentence of fourteen days' hard labour was passed upon an Indian cook, Hassan Bendrahim, in the Police Court yesterday, for stealing two bottles of milk from a delivery coolie at Yaumati early yesterday morning.

The German Government has decided to disband the so-called "Eastern Asiatic detachment," which hitherto garrisoned Kiao-chow, replacing it by a marine detachment formed from the 3rd Battalion of Marine.

On Wednesday, the 11th ult., an auction was held at Sandakan of the late Panglima Haji Abdul Kadir. Amongst other articles for sale were seven very fine brass cannon which were purchased by the China Borneo Co.

The China Borneo Co. have just launched and launched a new lighter for the New London Borneo Tobacco Co., Ltd. Her dimensions are: length 55 feet, beam 15 feet and depth 7 feet 6 inches. This new lighter has been called the *Ranau*.

His Excellency the Governor has been pleased to appoint Mr. G. A. Woodcock to act as deputy registrar and accountant, Supreme Court, during the absence on leave of Mr. J. W. Lee-Jones or until further notice, with effect from the 12th instant.

It has been decided by the members of the Grand Council to establish a special department which will be charged with the control of the mercantile marine of the country. It is probable that the new department will be put under the superintendence of the Ministry of War.

It has been decided to form a Special Bodyguard of forty gentlemen for Prince Chun, during his Regency, twenty of whom will be officers of the Army appointed by the Ministry of War and twenty of higher officers of the Gendarmerie Corps appointed by the Ministry of the Interior.

The Rules made by the Governor-in-Council on the 18th September, 1905, and as subsequently amended, as to the conduct of examinations for certificates of competency in the Mercantile Marine have been further amended. The new rules are published in the current issue of the *Gazette*.

It is stated from Peking that the Central Government has received information from South that Sun Yat-sen, also known as Sun Wen, the reputed leader of the anti-monarchists, is now in Siam with a band of some eighty followers, and that he is contemplating a descent into Chinese territory in the future.

On the evening of the 27th ultimo, over 200 houses were destroyed by fire at the town of Isohama, Ibaragi prefecture. The damage is estimated at about Y40,000. The streets devastated were chiefly inhabited by the poorer classes, and the condition of the people burnt out is said to be miserable in the extreme.

Illustrated wall calendars for the coming year continue to arrive. The latest to hand have been from:—The Victoria Dispensary, Albingia Fire Insurance Co., of Hamburg (Messrs. Carlowitz & Co., Hongkong agents), and the Lancashire Insurance Co., represented by Messrs. Arnhold, Karberg & Co., in Hongkong.

On the afternoon of the 4th instant the ceremony of opening the new wet dock of the Yokohama Dock Company was held in presence of a large concourse of people and with great éclat. The new dock is 280 feet in breadth and 600 in length and is capable of accommodating two steamers of 6,000 tons each and one of 3,000 tons at the same time.

Li Lien-ying, the well-known Chief Eunuch of the Imperial Court and during the life of the late Empress Grand Dowager a variable power behind the Throne, has now given out that as soon as his twenty-seven months of mourning for their late Imperial Majesties have expired he will shave off his hair, become a Buddhist priest and spend the rest of his days in praying for the soul of his Imperial Mistress and its speedy transmigration into the body of some well-born infant of this World. It is reported that Li Lien-ying is worth something like ten million taels.

It is stated the Prince Regent intends to bestow special medals and rewards upon dealers in opium, prepared and in the trade who will close their business within the first month of the next Chinese New Year (January-February, 1909) while those who will stop planting the poppy and begin the cultivation of grain next year will be exempted from paying land taxes for the space of five years. *Apropos* H.E. Ko Feng-shih, the Director General of the Department for the collection of duty on native opium, reports that the revenue on the drug for the Autumn Quarter has now fallen off over Tls. 300,000.

The Sanitary Board may well pride itself on the fact that that august Body has been the object of much attention of late. The Press have had their say in the Board's deliberations, the A. D. C. has had its little knits at the expense of Hongkong's most sportsmanlike department, and now we observe that the Bombay cry for this has even reached Bombay. One of the Journals there has the following in a prominent position:—"The Sanitary Board of Hongkong has lately been endeavouring to get at the root of the plague question. The last move is to advise that every household in the Colony shall keep a cat."

The extradition charge against Alfred W. Hall, a reporter on the staff of *The Quarry*, who was arrested the other day by Detective Sergeant Tarrett, for alleged embezzlement committed at Manila, was opened in the Police Court, last Monday afternoon. Evidence taken on commission was handed in the magistrate. In that it was alleged that while defendant was in the employ of the Veteran Army Association at Manila he forged certain postal orders, the amount not being known. At the time of going to press we were given to understand that Hall had decided to give himself up to the authorities at Manila.

A suggestion has been made and has met with unanimous accord by the princes, nobles and cosmopolitan and prominent authorities and people throughout the Empire, to appoint a Committee which shall be charged with the duty of compiling a full account of the acts of their late Imperial Majesties the Emperor and Empress Grand Dowager during their life time, as a testimony of the gratitude of the country for their beneficent and progressive rule during the past half a century. It will be remembered that the late Empress Grand Dowager was also Regent during the minority of the last Emperor. This Chih, 1st son (1875-1908).

MESSRS. Wm. Meyerink & Co., agents in Hongkong, have issued a date block for 1909 on behalf of the Aachen & Munich Fire Insurance Co., and a wall calendar and desk blotter from the Liverpool and London and Globe Insurance Co.

AT the meeting of the Legislative Council last Thursday afternoon, H.E. the Governor read a telegram which he sent to London on the occasion of the King's birthday and the reply he received from the Secretary of State thanking His Excellency for the same.

IP SHIU, a carpenter, of 252, Second Street, was arrested last Tuesday by a Naval Yard policeman for larceny. Ip was accused of stealing a quantity of brass, the property of the Admiralty. In the Police Court, on Wednesday, he was sentenced to a month's imprisonment.

A CHINAMAN, who later said he was Wong Cheung, a fitter, unemployed, was arrested in Des Voeux Road Central last Wednesday, for, it is alleged, removing a purse containing $15 from a man's pocket. Accused was charged with the offence in the Police Court, on Thursday, and remanded.

THE office of the Russian Consulate will be closed on Saturday, the 19th inst., it being the name-day of Emperor Nicholas II of Russia. A reception will be held on the same day between 4 and 7 p.m. by Consul and Mrs. Tiedmann at their residence, No. 5, Queen's Gardens, in honour of the occasion.

FOR the alleged offence of kidnapping a fourteen year-old girl from her parents on the 19th ulto., a Chinese woman, Li Luk, was arrested yesterday (16th inst.). The little girl, Wong Kwan, disappeared one day and was not seen again until yesterday. She was stated to have been found in the woman's house. Defendant was remanded.

A FINE of $100 was paid by a coolie in the Police Court on the 17th inst. for having in his possession a quantity of ammunition without a permit from the police. When arrested the man—Li Fat—had in a box 150 rounds of rifle ammunition, 300 empty cartridges and three boxes of percussion caps. These were confiscated.

THE opium monopoly in Netherlands India now yields a net revenue of over 17 millions of guilders, a steady increase being one marked feature. The gross revenue from the drug stands at over 23 millions of guilders. The Government is trying to lessen the consumption of opium by raising the price, but so far has met with no success.

THE *Asahi* observes that trade with Manchuria is extremely depressed. Drafts drawn on Manchuria through the Osaka branch of the Specie Bank, which at one time attained between Y500,000 and Y600,000 in value per month, declined to Y210,000 for last month, and drafts drawn in Manchuria on Osaka, which at one time exceeded Y300,000, fell off to Y130,000.

WE are requested by the Superioress of l'Asile de la Sainte Enfance to thank the ladies who had charge of the stalls, the Major and Officers of the 105th Mahrattas for kindly allowing their Band to play at the Bazaar, the Star Ferry Co. for giving a free passage to the Band, and all who attended the sale. The sale will be continued at the Convent until Christmas Eve.

THE depression in the shipping business seems to have reached a climax in Japan. According to the *Osaka Mainichi*, there are now 26 steamers laid up idle, representing an aggregate tonnage of 56,629. This is attributed chiefly to the depression of the trade with Saigon, Rangoon, and Java. Even those vessels still being run are reported to be working at a loss.

A COOLIE residing at 4, Third Street, West Point, by name Chiu Chun Hiu, was charged in the Police Court, last Wednesday forenoon, (1) with obtaining a box of opium from a Chinese doctor under false pretences, and (2) with entering a house at 93, Market Street, Hunghom, on the 13th instant and stealing a quantity of cigarettes and melon seeds. On each charge he was sentenced to three months' hard labour.

A KIAOCHAU dispatch to the *Asahi* reports that the German Government has approved an increase in the emoluments of the German Minister and the secretaries and interpreters in the German Legation in Peking. The German Government has decided to establish a consulate at Harbin and has approved an appropriation of 27,500 marks for the cost of the re-construction of the Consulate buildings at Tientsin and Chefoo.

THE truth of a report which was about town last Sunday to the effect that an armed robbery followed by murder, had been committed in a village, near Taipo, New Territory, is denied at headquarters. We are given to understand that such a report was made at the Taipo Police Station, but on inquiries being made by the authorities it was learnt that the report was groundless and that a suicide committed in the village was responsible for the rumour.

THE claim brought by Charles Hing, of 16, New Market Street, against several partners in the Cheung Kai Fat Loong rice shop, to recover the sum of $534 for services rendered, was ended in the Supreme Court, on the 17th inst. The money claimed was for interpreting work done. Mr. Justice Gompertz gave judgment for the plaintiff for $237 and costs. The plaintiff was warned by the Court that he was not to take upon himself any legal work in the future, otherwise there would be trouble.

ANOTHER tramcar was damaged to the extent of about $5 through colliding with a truck in Des Vœux Road. As is the usual case the truck was overloaded and undermanned, consequently the coolies could not get out of the way in time to avoid the crash. Part of the panel of the car was destroyed. The head man in charge of the truck—a cook, it might be mentioned—was arrested for obstruction and causing damage. In the Police Court, last Thursday, he was fined $20 and ordered to pay the Tramway Company $5 compensation. Mr. J. Gray Scott, the manager, prosecuted. Obstructions of this kind are a danger to the travelling public and stringent measures should be taken to mitigate the nuisance, which is becoming by far too frequent.

LAI WAN must have had a bad opinion of the police; but we will venture to say that opinion is altered by now. Last Wednesday, after having girded himself with more *samshu* than was good for him in many ways, he started out to liven up matters. He was doing so extremely well, not only at the top of his voice, but also with his unsteady feet, when a *lukong* ordered him to keep quiet and "move on." Lai put on his best holiday smile when thus addressed, but took no particular notice. Again he was told to go, but all the officer could get out of him was, "I know you people," and continued the performance. Lai was promptly arrested and on the way to the station, he repeated what he had said before, and quietly slipped a dollar into the officer's palm, but this did not purchase his release. He was fined $5 for his behaviour and $5 for bribery in the Police Court, on Thursday.

THE Central Government has instructed the officials of the various provinces to confiscate and destroy all copies of the books edited by the reformer, K'ang Yu-wei, that may come to this country, on the ground that they are of a seditious nature and inimical to the dynasty.

TWO months' hard labour was the sentence imposed upon Yau Sham, a coolie, of 31, Stanley, for breaking into a house (No. 98) in the same village, and stealing eight fowls and eleven chickens belonging to a widow last Sunday night. Yau would have got away with the "birds" had they not objected to rough handling.

AFTER seventeen years' loyal service to the Government, Inspector A. Ritchie, of the Hongkong Police Force, sailed for the homeland last Saturday by the English mail steamer *Devanha*. Inspector Ritchie has retired on a well-earned pension, and takes with him the good wishes of his numerous friends in Hongkong, who will hope of his success in his new sphere of life.

ANOTHER ear-pick snatcher received the heavy hand of the law last Monday morning. The delinquent was Fze To Hung, and he was found guilty of snatching from a widow in Queen's Road on the 11th instant, an ear-pick, valued at $15. He was arrested on the spot. He was sentenced to a year's hard labour and to receive two whippings of twelve strokes each.

THE cook, Wong Tob, who, on Saturday, was charged with stealing $100 worth of property from his master—Mr. A. W. Vardigan, a timekeeper of Quarry Bay—was to-day (14th inst.) sentenced to three months' hard labour. Wong, it was stated, was formerly in the employ of Mr. Vardigan. Last month he disappeared, and so did a quantity of clothing, several pairs of shoes, and two clocks.

AN accident which might have resulted in serious consequences to a soldier took place last Saturday while a tramcar was approaching the Praya East Hotel. The unfortunate victim of the accident was Gunner W. Fay, belonging to the 88th Company of the R. G. A., who tried to jump out of the car the wrong way, and was struck by another car approaching from the opposite direction which the soldier had not noticed. He was removed to hospital, where his wounds were attended to.

THE flour market in Japan remains inactive, sales of the products of the Japan, Imperial, Nisshin (Japan-China), Masuda, and Toa (East Asia) Flour Mills being unsatisfactory. About 40,000 bags of American flour are expected in Yokohama to meet contracts. In consequence the prospects for the market have become more unfavourable. Home flour is now selling at a price which eliminates profit, in view of the quotation for wheat, so that it is not possible further to lower the price. The stock of American flour, on the other hand, is becoming smaller.

MR. G. A. Hancock, a schoolmaster, of 5, Bonham Strand, was charged in the Police Court, last Monday, with assaulting a chair coolie on Sunday, causing grievous bodily harm. It was stated that defendant discharged the chair he had hired near Bowrington Canal, paying the head coolie more than the legal fare. The coolie demanded more, and as defendant was about to enter a tramcar he was seized by the arm by the coolie. Turning round sharply defendant was alleged to have struck the coolie on the head with his stick, causing a gash over an inch long. The man was taken to hospital. On defendant agreeing to compensate the coolie the case was withdrawn. The coolie was given $14.

THE impending naval changes include two officers well known on the China Station—Vice-Admiral the Hon. Sir A. G. Curzon-Howe, K.C.B., late second in command of the China Squadron, who has been appointed Commander-in-Chief of the Mediterranean Fleet. The other is Rear-Admiral G. A. Callaghan, C.B., who, from the command of the Fifth Cruiser Squadron, has been appointed the second in command of the Mediterranean Fleet. Rear-Admiral Callaghan, whilst captain of the cruiser *Endymion* in 1900, commanded the Naval Brigade in the advance to the relief of the Peking Legations, for which service, which he carried out with much ability, he was made a Companion of the Bath.

CHINESE ladies are very fond of jewels, according to a story told by Sir Alexander Hosie, the British Attaché at Peking, in his report issued recently. "I was a passenger on a train between Peking and a young Chinese couple joined the train. The gentleman paid but little attention to his companion, and I judged she was either his sister or his wife. He bought a number of native papers and at once commenced to read. Her thumb and the four fingers of each hand were simply covered with gold rings encrusted with stones of every description from diamond to turquoise. She seemed oppressed by her adornment and held her hands straight down, being so encased in rings as to be unable to bend her fingers."

"NO damages can be allowed for sentimental considerations" were the words Mr. Hastings submitted in the Court of Summary Jurisdiction this afternoon (16th inst.), in the case in which Yun Wan, a coal-coolie residing at No. 19, Cochrane Street, sued the Indo-China Steam Navigation Co., Ld., to recover the sum of $1,000 as compensation for the loss of his wife, who met her death as the result of a collision between the steamer *Loongsang* and a passenger boat (No. 2565 H) reported to have taken place on the 19th June last. The sequel of the somewhat interesting case was reached this afternoon, when further evidence was taken, at the conclusion of which Mr. Justice Gompertz awarded judgment to the defendants (Jardine Matheson & Co.) with costs.

CAPTAIN David Beatty, M.V.O., D.S.O., who has been gazetted a naval aide-de-camp to the King in succession to Captain Eden Bradford, promoted to Flag rank, is a healthy Irishman, who has had a most distinguished career. The son of Captain D. L. Beatty, of Borodale, county Wexford, he was born in 1871, and entered the Navy at the age of 13. For his bravery in the Soudan he was mentioned in despatches, awarded the Medjidie medal, as well as the D.S.O. decoration, and promoted to the rank of commander. His service in China in 1900 won for him further honours, and he was again mentioned in despatches. Seven years ago Captain Beatty married Miss Ethel Field, daughter of Marshall Field, the millionaire storekeeper of Chicago.

THE result of the working of the Amagasaki Cotton Spinning Company for the half-year which is about to close appears to be satisfactory, reports the *Japan Chronicle*. The net profit of the company for the period is estimated at Y372,850, including a surplus of Y120,000 brought over from the preceding period. Of this amount it is proposed to allot Y30,000 for the depreciation of the buildings and machinery, Y50,000 for the reserve, Y21,600 for bonuses of officials, and to distribute Y144,250 as a dividend at the rate of 30 per cent. per annum, carrying forward the balance of Y127,000. The building for the company's new mill at Tsumori is expected to be completed before the end of this month. About 80 per cent of the machinery and plant ordered from abroad has arrived, and it is expected that the new mill will be able to begin operations by March next.

SHARE QUOTATIONS.

Supplied by Messrs. E. S. KADOORIE & Co. Corrected to noon; later alterations given under "Commercial Intelligence," page 5.

STOCKS.	NO. OF SHARES.	VALUE.	PAID UP.	POSITION AS PER LAST REPORT: RESERVE	POSITION AS PER LAST REPORT: AT WORKING ACCOUNT.	LAST DIVIDEND.	APPROXIMATE RETURN AT PRESENT QUOTATIONS, BASED ON LAST YEAR'S DIV.	CLOSING QUOTATIONS.
BANKS.								
Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation	120,000	$125	$125	£1,500,000 / $14,000,000 / $250,000	$24,005,774	Interim of £2 for first half year @ ex 1/9½=$21.942	5¾ %	$845 sellers. London £82
National Bank of China, Limited	99,025	£7	£6	£4,009 / $150,000	$10,223	$2 (London 3/6) for 1903	...	$50
MARINE INSURANCES.								
Canton Insurance Office, Limited	10,000	$250	$50	$1,560,000 / $332,757 / $411,990	none	$14 for 1907	7½ %	$193 buyers
North China Insurance Company, Limited	10,000	£15	£8	£125,000 / Tls. 150,000 / Tls. 303,747 / Tls. 118,277	Tls. 160,512	Final of 7/8 making 15/- for 1907	5¼ %	Tls. 105
Union Insurance Society of Canton, Limited	18,400	$250	$100	$3,000,000 / £90,000 / $302,478 / £129,695 / $727,649	$2,506,011	Final of $15 making $45 for 1906 and interim of $30 for 1907	5¼ %	$840 sellers
Yangtsze Insurance Association, Limited	18,000	$100	$60	$1,000,000 / $199,032 / $85,157	$591,763	$12 and bonus $3 for 1906	9 %	$165 buyers
FIRE INSURANCES.								
China Fire Insurance Company, Limited	10,000	$100	$10	$1,000,000 / $446,097 / $13,803	$372,432	$6 and bonus $2 for 1906	7½ %	$107 buyers
Hongkong Fire Insurance Company, Limited	8,000	$250	$50	$1,825,941	$428,027	$37 for 1906	8 %	$323
SHIPPING.								
China and Manila Steamship Company, Limited	50,000	$25	$25	$7,000	$1,035	$1 for 1906	...	$14
Douglas Steamship Company, Limited	20,000	$50	$50	$264,638 / $99,067	Nil.	$2½ for year ending 30.6.1908	7½ %	$33 buyers
Hongkong, Canton & Macao Steamboat Co., Ld.	80,000	$15	$15	$2,250,000 / $587,500 / $31,766 / $17,655	£17,755	$1½ for first half-year ending 30.6.08	8½ %	$205 sellers
Indo-China Steam Navigation Co., Ld. (Preferred) / Do. do. (Deferred)	60,000 / 60,000	£5	£5	£10,000 / £24,000	£13,755	6/- for 1907 on Preference shares only @ ex 1/9 11/16=$3.154	5¼ %	$37 / $17
Shanghai Tug and Lighter Company, Limited	200,000	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	Tls. 75,000	Tls. 14,510	Interim of Tls. 1½ for account 1908	7½ %	Tls. 48 sellers
Do. (Preference)	100,000						7½ %	Tls. 51 buyers
Shell" Transport and Trading Company, Limited	2,000,000	£1	£1	£720,000 / £ 60,000	£64,817	Final of 2/- making 3/- for 1907 and interim of 1/- (No. 10) for a/c 1908	6 %	47/6
"Star" Ferry Company, Limited	20,000	$10	$10	$ 5,000	$98	$1.00 / $0.50 for year ending 30.4.1908	4 % / 2½ %	$24 / $13
Taku Tug and Lighter Company, Limited	30,000	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	Tls. 18,000 / Tls. 42,479 / Tls. 7,000 / Tls. 8,000 / Tls. 12,000	Tls. 6,869	Final of Tls. 2½ making Tls. 5 for 1907	11 %	Tls. 48
REFINERIES.								
China Sugar Refining Company, Limited	20,000	$100	$100	$32,538 / $50,000 / $56,848	Dr. $279,871	$8 for year ending 31.12.06	...	$112½
Luzon Sugar Refining Company, Limited	7,000	$100	$100	none	Dr. $135,198	13 for 1897	...	$50 sellers
Perak Sugar Cultivation Company, Limited	7,000	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	Tls. 100,000	Tls. 9,173	Tls. 3½ for year ending 31.8.07	...	Tls. 82½ buyers
MINING.								
Chinese Engineering and Mining Company, Ld.	1,000,000	£1	£1	£ 175,000	£11,556	Final of 1/6 (coupon No. 11) for year ending 29.2.08	7 %	Tls. 17½ buyers
Raub Australian Gold Mining Company, Limited	150,000 / 50,000	£1	18/10 / £1	£12,289 / £4,873	Dr. £2,191	No. 11 of 1/-=48 cents	...	$9
DOCKS, WHARVES & GODOWNS.								
Cowick (Geo.) & Co., Limited	18,000	$25	$25	$53,601	$3,726	$1.75 for year ending 31.12.06	...	$12
Hongkong & Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Ld.	60,000	$50	$50	$50,000 / $26,806 / $40,000 / $76,193	$3,556	Final of $1½ making $3½ for 1907	8 %	$43 sellers
Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company, Ld.	50,000	$50	$30	$200,000	$384,847	Interim of $4 for account 1908	8½ %	$91 sellers
Shanghai Dock and Engineering Co., Ld.	55,700	Tls. 100	Tls. 100	Tls. 1,000,000	Tls. 23,742	Final of Tls. 2½ making in all Tls. 5 for year ending 30.4.08	7 %	Tls. 72½ buyers
Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf Company, Limited	36,000	Tls. 100	Tls. 100	Tls. 697,257 / Tls. 75,000 / Tls. 125,000	Tls. 22,626	Interim of Tls. 4 for account 1908	6 %	Tls. 135 sales
LANDS, HOTELS & BUILDINGS.								
Anglo-French Land Investment Co., Ld.	25,000	Tls. 100	Tls. 100	Tls. 25,000	Tls. 6,531	Tls. 6 for 1907	6 %	Tls. 100
Astor House Hotel Company, Limited (Shanghai)	30,000	$25	$25	$30,000	Dr. $3,220	$2½ for year ending 30.6.07	...	$16
Central Stores, Limited	50,188	$15	$15	$1,000	$9,178	$1.80 for 1906	...	$14 buyers
Hongkong Hotel Company, Limited	12,000	$50	$50	$648,975 / $28,000	$14,639	Interim of $3 for account 1908	7½ %	$80 buyers
Hongkong Land Investment and Agency Co., Ld.	50,000	$100	$100	$250,000	$80,975	Interim of $2½ for account 1908	7½ %	$92 sellers
Humphreys Estate & Finance Company, Limited	150,000	$10	$10	$217,426 / $50,000	$4,621	70 cents for 1907	7½ %	$9½ sellers
Kowloon Land and Building Company, Limited	6,000	$50	$30	none	$653	$1½ for 1907	6½ %	$35
Shanghai Land Investment Company, Limited	78,000	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	Tls. 1,528,045 / Tls. 170,000	Tls. 107,547	Interim of Tls. 3 for account 1908	7 %	Tls. 119 sales
West Point Building Company, Limited	12,500	$50	$50	none	$1,541	Interim of $2 for account 1908	9 %	$46
COTTON MILLS.								
China Cotton Spinning and Weaving Company, Ld.	15,000	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	Tls. 150,000 / Tls. 45,919	Tls. 8,820	Tls 5 for year ended 31.10.08	6½ %	Tls. 75 b. ex div.
Hongkong Cotton Spinning, Weaving and Dyeing Company, Limited	125,000	$10	$10	$20,000	$9,553	50 cents for year ending 31.7.08	5 %	$10 sellers
International Cotton Manufacturing Company, Ld.	10,000	Tls. 75	Tls. 75	Tls. 75 100	Tls. 8,372	Tls. 6 for year ended 30.9.06 (8 %)	...	Tls. 60
Kwan-kung-mow Cotton Spinning & Weaving Co., Ld.	8,000	Tls. 100	Tls. 100	none	Tls. 6,308	Tls. 8 for 1906	...	Tls. 66
New Chee Cotton Spinning Company, Limited	2,000	Tls. 500	Tls. 500	Tls. 28,257	Tls. 50,063	Tls. 50 for 1906	...	Tls. 370
MISCELLANEOUS.								
Bell's Asbestos Eastern Agency, Limited	8,604	12/6	12/6	£1,500	£648	1 10½ per share for 1907=$1.037	12 %	$8 buyers
China-Borneo Company, Limited	60,000	$12	$12	$25,000	Nil.	$1.20 for 1907	11 %	$11
China Light and Power Company, Limited	50,000 / Do. Do. special shares 50,000	$10 / $1	$10 / $1	none	61,138	60 cents for year ended 28.2.06	...	$5½
China Provident Loan & Mortgage Company, Ld.	125,000	$10	$10	$120,000	$3,598	80 cents for 1907	8½ %	$9½ buyers
Dairy Farm Company, Limited	25,000	$7½	$6	$10,000 / $8,000	$48	$1.50 for year ending 31.7.08	5¾ %	$22½
Green Island Cement Company, Limited	400,000	$10	$10	$12,000	$5,078	Interim of 40 cents for account 1908	10 %	$10 sellers
H. Price & Company, Limited	12,000	$10	$10	$5,000	$251	75 cents for 9 months ending 31.12.07	8 %	$12 buyers
Hall & Holtz, Limited	21,000	$20	$20	$186,000	$8,957	$2 for year ending 28.2.08	10 %	$20½ buyers
Hongkong Electric Company, Limited	60,000	$10	$10	none	$9,321	$1 and bonus 20 cts. for year ending 29.2.08	6½ %	$18 buyers
Hongkong Ice Company, Limited	5,000	$25	$25	$120,000	$4,578	Interim of $4 for account 1908	8½ %	$295 sellers
Hongkong Rope Manufacturing Company, Ld.	60,000	$10	$10	none	$8,191	Interim of $1 for account 1908	8 %	$24
Maatschappij tot Mijn-, Bosch- en Landbouwexploitatie in Langkat, Limited	25,000	Gs. 100	Gs. 100	Tls. 547,500	Tls. 17,127	4th Quarterly div. of Tls. 10 and bonus of Tls. 10 making $50 to date	5¾ %	Tls. 860 s. ex d.
Peak Tramways Company, Limited	25,000	$10	$10	Tls. 27,603 / $5,000				
Peak Tramways Company (new)	50,000	$10	$1		$7,471	80 cents on fully paid shares and 6 cents on $1 paid shares for year ending 30.4.08	6 % / 4 %	$14 / $1
Philippine Company, Limited	75,000	$10	$10	none				
Shanghai Gas Company, Limited	24,000	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	Tls. 100,000	Nil.	None	...	$8
Shanghai-Sumatra Tobacco Company, Limited	30,000	Tls. 20	Tls. 20	Tls. 24,820 / Tls. 75,000	Tls. 6,603	Final of Tls. 4 making Tls. 7½ for 1907	6¾ %	Tls. 117 buyers
Shanghai Waterworks Company, Limited	16,350	£20	£20	Tls. 190,000	Tls. 8,491	Final of Tls. 9 making in all Tls. 14 for 1907	12 %	Tls. 122½ buyers
South China Morning Post, Limited	6,000	$25	$25	none	Tls. 58,882	Final of 37/6 making 52/6 for 1907	...	Tls. 435
Union Laundry Company, Limited	20,000	$ 5	$ 5	none	Dr. $90,257	None	...	$24
Victoria Waterworks Company, Limited	7,000	Tls. 100	Tls. 100	none	$236	40 cents for year ending 31.5.08	8 %	$5
Watson Waterboat Company, Limited	50,000	$10	$10	Tls. 15,295 / Tls. 4,000	Tls. 801	Tls. 6½ for year ending 30.4.07	...	Tls. 94 buyers
United Asbestos Oriental Agency, Limited	10,000	$10	$4	$35,000	$121	50 cents for 1907	5 %	$10
Watson, (A. S.) & Co., Limited	90,000	$10	$10	$300,000 / $25,000	$1,360	80 cents on 9,000 ord. shares and $10.80 on 100 Founders' shares for yr. end. 31.5.07	6¾ %	$13 buyers
William Powell, Limited	15,000	$7	$7	none	$6,438 / $3.95	Interim of 30 cents a/c 1908	6¾ %	$9½
						Final of 30 cts. making 80 cts. for the year ended 30th June, 1906	...	$4

* These shares are entitled to half of the profits ...

DIVIDENDS PAYABLE:—

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